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'RAT' CON WORKMEN WARNING

DETECTIVES are warning people to beware bogus garden workmen, following a spate of incidents where pensioners have been targeted across Sandwell.

Police have been called to five addresses across the area since Saturday, March 5, where a man, or men, have called at the homes of elderly residents saying essential work needs to be carried out on tree branches or roots.

The worker has then quoted a large fee for minor works. In some of the cases there has been a mention of rats being seen that need to be exterminated.

Detective sergeant Glenn Marriott, from the Sandwell and Dudley team of Force Criminal Investigation Department, said: "Five such incidents have been reported to us over the past couple of weeks across Great Barr, West Bromwich and Sedgley.

"All of the victims were in their 70s or 80s

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and were probably targeted as they were considered vulnerable.

"One 82-year-old gentleman in West Bromwich handed over £800 to a workman who cut back branches of a tree in his garden on Thursday. This kind of offence is deplorable and we urge everyone to be on their guard against callers at their door offering such works."

The three offences in Sandwell on Thursday, March 10, all involved a white man, offering to cut back tree branches or roots that were causing problems. One man is described as being in his 40s or early 50s, wearing grey trousers and jacket described as workman type clothes.

Problem

In a later incident on Thursday the offender was described as being of large build, tall and wearing navy blue clothes.

In Sedgley, on March 5, a man approached a pensioner outsider her home and said he was working on behalf of the council to sort out a rat problem. He asked for £300 to carry out such work, however the victim didn't part with any cash.

The man is described as white, approx 40 years of age, clean shaven, of large build, about six feet tall wearing a woollen hat, anorak style coat, and was driving a plain white Ford Transit van.

DS Marriott added: "We can't confirm whether the same offender is responsible for each of the offences, however, we are concerned that this man, or maybe a group of offenders, are targeting the elderly in this area. Anyone with information is urged to contact us at their earliest opportunity."

Chief Inspector Paul Betts from Sandwell Police Station said: "We want to warn people, particularly the elderly, not to do business with cold callers at the door.

"If they need garden work done or trees felled they should contact the local authority who have trade registers which lists reputable firms who can carry out this work."

"We would also ask local people to keep a watch for people calling at homes in your neighbourhood, particularly if you have elderly neighbours. We urge people to report any suspicious activity to local officers."

Contact Sandwell or Dudley Police on 0345 113 5000 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Landmark restaurant is to reopen

LANDMARK Sandwell restaurant Jonathans will reopen alongside a new hotel next week.

Dutch-born businessman Zishan Zaman has taken over the site in Oldbury and will open the new Birmingham Best Inn on Tuesday.

The iconic restaurant, based within the hotel, will also reopen and remain as Jonathans under the plans.

The new development will create 25 jobs, Mr Zaman said. The 25-year-old businessman, who owns the Mary Rose Inn in Orpington, Kent, and is based in Slough, said negotiations had been under way since the beginning of January after the property was marketed through business sales specialists Christie + Co.

He said room rates would start at £30 per night.

Successful

"It is going to be a big asset to the Birmingham area," he said.

"We try to offer affordable accommodation for families that cannot afford to spend any more money. That is why we are successful.

"We have purchased this one because it is better to put something into the market that is affordable these days.

"We are keen to open as soon as possible, the property being closed is losing us money."

Renowned for its traditional English cooking, Jonathans, at the junction of Hagley Road and Wolverhampton Road, was Sandwell's most famous restaurant.

Jonathans, which was a three-star, 45-bedroom hotel, had been running for 30 years and attracted around 300 visitors a week.

It closed in October 2009 after Jonathans Ltd went into administration.

Former vicar dies

A FORMER chaplain to two Warley mayors has died.

Canon Jack Pigott was vicar of St Hilda's Church, Warley Woods, in the early 1970s.

Having trained at Trinity College, Dublin and served as an RAF chaplain in Cyprus and Jordan, Rev Pigott first moved to Warley in April 1965.

During his time as the mayor's chaplain he was a member of one of the first Cancer Relief Committees in Birmingham (now Macmillan).

In 1974 he moved to Sutton Coldfield to become vicar of St Michael's Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield and was made an Honorary Canon of Birmingham Cathedral in 1981. He retired in 1997 to live near Taunton in Somerset.

Table top sale

A TABLE top sale is being held in West Bromwich on Saturday.

It takes place at Wesley Methodist Church, High Street, from 10.30am to1pm and admission is free.

Stalls, refreshments and a tombola will be situated on the church's forecourt, weather permitting.

Firm closes

A MORE than century-old West Bromwich tool firm has closed down – with four workers made redundant.

Lugg Tools Ltd has been based in Hill Top, for more than 120 years.

Owner Tom Wright blamed the knock on effect from the closure of MG Rover at Longbridge.

Demolition work at mansion

PARTS of a Grade-II listed mansion in Great Barr, which is being turned into homes, will be demolished after the Government granted approval.

Buildings attached to the historic Red House, in Red House Park, Great Barr, will be taken down after being granted conditional listed building consent.

The squash courts and public toilets on the north side of the site will be razed to the ground after the scheme was given the go-ahead.

Workers will partially demolish the former Jumping Jacks nursery attached to the building on Hill Lane, keeping the curved masonry wall that forms part of the original Georgian house.

A written decision from the Secretary of State noted that organisations including English Heritage had no objections provided that the curved wall attached to the Red House was retained.

The nursery on Hill Lane will be taken apart by hand to retain those bricks which still feature the same Flemish bond pattern for future repairs on the house.

A written outline of the works will need to be submitted to Sandwell Council before demolition can begin.

Documents submitted with plans said the appearance of the 1970s Jumping Jacks was "wholly out of character" with the Georgian architecture of the Red House.

The council has resurrected plans to turn the historic mansion into 11 apartmentss.

There are also plans to build seven detached houses or six bungalows on land nearby, off Hill Lane, to make it more attractive to developers. The council put previous plans for apartments on hold.

Residents have been concerned about the future of Red House for years after repeated attacks by vandals.

The Friends of Red House Park had called for the building to be turned into a community centre. But no developer came forward.

Bill Gunn, spokesman for the Friends of Redhouse Park said: "We are very sorry the house is going to be converted and have fought this for nine years.

"The courts and the toilet block haven't been used for 30 or 40 years and are full of asbestos. When they are gone the house will at least look as it did originally."

Zumba instructor Aimee Billings gets set for the charity Zumbathon at Haden Hill Leisure Centre

Zumba like lightning for cancer charity

A CHARITY Zumbathon will raise cash for Cancer Research at Haden Hill Leisure Centre in Cradley Heath next month.

Zumba is a Latin inspired dance aerobic class and is one of the world's fastest growing fitness crazes.

The Zumbathon takes place at the centre in Barrs Road on Saturday, April 9, from 11.15am to 1.15pm. It costs £5 to take part with proceeds going to Cancer Research.

Sandwell Leisure Trust physical activity development officer Matt Hill said everyone was looking forward to the fundraising event. "Places are limited and we know just how popular Zumba is, so please register at the centre or call 0845 659 4815 and select option 0," he said.

Find out more about what activities are available at a local leisure centre near you by visiting the www.slt-leisure.co.uk website.

Focus on fashion

A WOMAN from Great Barr has been declared One Stop Shopping Centre's 'real shopper.'

One Stop launched a campaign to find a shopper to star in their FashionFIX event being held this Saturday, March 19.

The campaign which was launched on Facebook saw Emma Guest, aged 32, chosen as their winner.

Emma will receive a style make-over before showcasing her new look on the catwalk this weekend.

Demonstrations and fashions will be on display between 11am and 5pm tomorrow (Friday) and 10am and 4pm on the main stage in the mall on Saturday.

London stylists will be on hand talking through how to dress for your body shape and how to put key looks together for this season. Fashion will be showcased throughout Saturday on the main stage with topics such as party wear, trends, dresses and accessories.

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New car park at station

WORK has begun on a new car park at Dudley Port Railway Station.

The additional 47-space car park is set to open mid-June. It will more than double capacity at the station, with the number of parking spaces increasing from 36 to 83.

The car park is next to the station and an access road is being built as part of the development leading from Park Lane East. It is being created by passenger transport authority Centro to cope with demand from commuters.

The 12-week work programme will see CCTV and additional lighting installed and an existing walkway to the station upgraded.

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Schools prepare for boom

APPROVAL is likely to be given to the expansion plans of two Sandwell primary schools which need to create extra places for pupils due to a baby boom in the borough.

Tameside Primary in Wednesbury and Uplands Manor Primary School in Smethwick both have rising pupil numbers.

Today (Thursday) proposals are likely to be approved by Sandwell's education boss Councillor Bob Badham.

At Tameside, in Price Road, numbers will rise from 420 to 630 – with 90 children taken on each year rather than the current 60. At Uplands Manor in Addenbrook Road, capacity will increase by 33 per cent from 630 to 840. The extra classrooms will be created in under used areas of the schools.

Planners are also considering an expansion at Shireland Hall Primary in Smethwick.

Junction is low priority

A BUSY junction on the border of Sandwell and Walsall boroughs could be in line for a £500,000 overhaul to stop drivers speeding.

Highways chiefs say traffic lights should be installed at the roundabout where Queslett Road meets Collingwood Drive in Pheasey. It has been the scene of seven accidents in three years. The speed-busting scheme is one of a number of transport projects under consideration by Walsall Council.

But schemes are subject to funding and council bosses warned they could take years to come to fruition. depending on their priority. They said the work in Pheasey, which could also include alterations to the carriageway, including modifying the bus layby on the 40mph Queslett Road, was far down the list of priorities

Bail hostel is making life hell, say families

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RESIDENTS who say their lives have been made "hell" since a bail hostel opened in their Tipton street four years ago have called for it to be closed down.

Street brawls, noise and police being called to the property at five o'clock in the morning are just some of the problems experienced by people living in Church Street, who say they are suffering sleepless nights.

Among the residents affected is 32-year-old father-of-four Habeeb Khan, a customer adviser, who says his children are having problems at school because they are not getting enough sleep.

"We have seen fighting in the street, we have had people knocking on doors asking for money," he said.

"Noise, singing, house parties. It is making our lives hell."

He added: "Teachers are complaining my children are going into school tired."

Echoing Mr Khan's views is retired 67-year-old Roger Dudley, who has lived in the road since 1981.

"We have had a number of problems," he said. "It's not fair that we should be burdened with this."

Taxi driver and father-of-four Gullfaraz Ilahi, aged 40, said: "There are always people making noise outside.

"There have been occasions when police have been banging on the door because the person living there has not answered their bail.

"We want it shut down."

The property is managed by Stonham on behalf of the Government.

Tag

Officially known as a Bass, a Bail Accommodation and Support Service, it caters for people who would normally be living in the community on bail but do not have somewhere suitable to stay.

The people living there have been bailed by the courts or released from prison, initially on an electronic tag, having served a prison sentence.

Ministry of Justice spokesman James Rea said there was no such thing as a "bail hostel".

He said: "Approved premises exist to protect the public and are staffed 24 hours a day.

"Offenders are supervised by specially trained staff who work with the police in order to protect the public."

Graves campaign growing

THOUSANDS of people across the Black Country are using the internet to come together and support a £100,000 appeal.

The Facebook group 'Vandalised Headstones at Thimblemill Cemetery' was created two weeks ago after around 40 gravestones were smashed at the cemetery.

The incident happened on March 2 and when many thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused.

A man was later arrested. Jason Griffiths, aged 40, of Cowley Road, Oxford, has been charged with causing damage and remanded in custody to appear before a court via video link on March 23.

After only three days of being online the Facebook group had over 4,500 members, and their increasing support has lead to a website being created to cope with interest from those affected by the shocking vandalism.

Amanda Mills, who has been involved in the project from the outset, said: "It's been fantastic, everyone in the community has joined together to show their support."

Football

Their growing interest has attracted support from organisations too, including donations from the Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion football clubs. Asda's Oldbury supermarket has also put buckets by tills to encourage the public to donate.

Moat Farm Junior School, Oldbury, has decided to share any of the money they raise for Comic Relief with the local cause.

An extra 600 members joined the Facebook group after Mrs Mills appeared on a local radio station last week and spoke about the appeal.

A charity football match was held last weekend at to raise their profile further. All of the money raised will go towards repairing the headstones.

Miss Mills said: "It's terrible. You don't expect someone to go and vandalise the last resting place of a loved one."

Fundraisers are also hoping to upgrade security in the cemetery.

An official charity, United We Stand, is being set up by Jane Holloway and Rachel George who founded the Facebook group. Donations can be sent to Co-op Funeral Directors, 24-26 Birmingham Street, Oldbury, all cheques made payable to United We Stand; or visit www.thimblemillfund.org.uk website.

Free meals go unclaimed

Joy Djukic, education benefits manager, and Cllr Bob Badham, cabinet member for children and families, are calling for families to find out if they are among the thousand in Sandwell who are entitled to free school meals but are not claiming. If they did, schools would get more money from the Government

FAMILIES are being urged to check if they are entitled to free school meals.

If so, they can apply for them and help Sandwell schools to attract around half a million pounds in funding from the Government.

For every child entitled to school meals, Sandwell schools wins extra funding under the 'pupil premium', a payment of £430 for each child.

Sandwell Council believes there are more than 1,000 families in the borough who could but don't claim free school meals for their children.

The pupil premium is a Government scheme to give money to schools in need based on how many children are entitled to free school meals.

Sandwell Council's cabinet member for children and families Councillor Bob Badham said: "The pupil premium is a way of securing more money for hard-pressed schools following draconian cuts by the Government. It will be given directly to schools – not the local authority – based on how many children are eligible for free school meals. That number is currently around 10,500 children across Sandwell.

"However, we believe there are more than 1,000 families in Sandwell – around 12 per cent – who are eligible for free school meals for their children but don't claim for them.

"Not only are they missing out on a healthy nutritious meal at what would cost £360 per year per child, but the more children registered as eligible for free school meals will lead to more pupil premiums paid to our schools.

Education

"This money will be given directly to the schools to enhance the child's education.

"I want to encourage every family that may be eligible for free school meals to contact the council's education benefits team on 0121 569 8189.

"We're trying to make the process of getting free school meals as easy as possible. Staff can do a quick online check to see if a family is eligible, all they need is the parent or guardian's date of birth and their national insurance number."

Police net closing on drug gang

THE detective leading an investigation into a drug dealing network believed to be worth £750,000 a year in Sandwell says police are close to smashing the cartel.

Officers have been investigating a suspected drug gang operating in Smethwick, Bearwood, Tividale and Edgbaston.

An inquiry was launched aimed at cracking a network which used two mobile phones that were receiving up to 4,000 calls a month about deals.

Detective Chief Inspector Andy Beard said that the investigation was still continuing but a number of suspects were in custody. The police were still looking for "one or two" others.

The police have worked with Sandwell Council for 12 months on the investigation, which was named Operation Eliminate.

Intelligence came from sharp-eyed members of the public telling police about suspected drug crime. There have been 33 arrests under the operation.

Swooped

In June, more than 100 police officers swooped on homes in the borough in a series of dawn raids.

DCI Beard said then that officers seized one of the phones along with heroin, £40,000 cash, firearms, ammunition and four cars.

He confirmed police had now seized more of the phones from the network.

"It's been quite a complex inquiry and I cannot reveal all the details, because these people will be coming to trial," he added.

Since the end of 2009, around a dozen cannabis factories have been discovered in Sandwell.

Gateway plan being revived

PLANS for a huge advertising hoarding next to the M6 in Wednesbury have been on hold due to the economic recession.

The Sandwell Gateway is proposed for land at Friar Park, Wednesbury. Opus Land aims to build the structure, known as the Sandwell Gateway, on land off St Paul's Road.

Previous plans were criticised by residents for being too big and in May 2009 the developers ditched plans for a structure measuring 279ft by 82ft, which would have towered 135ft above ground level. Planning bosses at Sandwell Council were set to refuse the application.

Proposals were resurrected and in April last year a public consultation with revised plans was held for residents, although no plans were ever resubmitted.

Market

Opus Land have revealed the recession delayed plans for the hoarding but it was hoped a fresh consultation with residents would take place later this month.

Motorway police and the Highways Agency objected to the original plans, saying that the hoarding could be a distraction to drivers.

Meanwhile, Insite Poster Group is appealing against refusal for an 84ft tall advertising hoarding it wants to erect next to the M5 near junction 1.

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Skips to be stored at glassworks

PART of Smethwick's former Chance Brothers glassworks will be turned into a yard for storing up to 200 skips, after planning chiefs gave the go-ahead.

Owners had hoped to transform the Grade II-listed glassworks, which dominates the skyline next to the M5, into a 200-bed hotel but plans were put on hold during the economic downturn.

Conditional temporary permission has now been granted by Sandwell Council for the skip storage, put forward as a short term solution to get a return on the land. One acre of the 5.3 acre site will be turned into an area for skip storage prior to sorting and disposal of waste.

A report by architects Intergrated Designs & Associates, submitted as part of the application, says the maximum number of skips using the site at any one time would be 200.

A total of £160,000 has already been invested on restoring Victorian brickwork on the building.

Site co-owner Anthony Copeland said the skip plans were short term while the hotel remained the primary plan. English Heritage spokesman Renee Fok said they did not oppose the temporary plan as it only involved an open part of the site.

The last of the Smethwick works closed in 1981, ending more than 150 years of production.

Joy at school's amazing turn around

A SCHOOL in Sandwell that was put into special measures is now celebrating a glowing report.

Staff and parents at Langley Primary School in Oldbury were devastated when they were put into special measures in September 2009 after inspectors said standards were low. But Ofsted's latest inspection rated them as 'good'.

Headteacher Dr Tony James said: "Standards were fairly low and attendance was low. The parents took it quite hard. The staff responded wonderfully, they were very keen to look at themselves, what they were doing and they have worked tremendously hard to turn things around."

He added: "We have changed the way that we teach in that it has become much more about involving the children and following their interests so they are much more involved in their work now."

The Titford Road school, which has 370 pupils, invited parents to an informal celebration also attended by the mayor Councillor Pauline Hinton.

Celebrating a big improvement at their school, from left, pupils Olivia Bowden, Lleyton Gould and Katie Maslin, with front, Khelsey Preedy, head Dr Tony James and Keely Preedy

Theft by 'finding' admitted

THREE metal thieves who took £100 of scrap metal and copper cabling from near Tesco at Burnt Tree "didn't know" that it would be classed as stealing, a court heard.

The trio, all from Tipton, pleaded guilty to theft by finding at Dudley Magistrates Court on Friday.

Window cleaner Alan Green, of Sycamore Road, Princess End, was handed an £80 fine and ordered to pay £85 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Michael Holloway, aged 21, and Lee Rogers, 23, both of Menin Road, pleaded guilty to a second charge of failing to attend a drug test. They were each handed a 12-month community order and told they must complete 80 hours of unpaid work, plus pay £85 court costs. They were warned they could face prison if they do not abide by the order.

Mr Waleed Khan, for Holloway and Rogers, said they had not intended to steal.

Green said: "At the time I wasn't aware of theft by finding and didn't know what that was. I do now. I just want to put this whole thing behind me."

Call for witnesses after student dies

A STUDENT from West Bromwich died after being involved in a collision with a taxi during a night out in Birmingham.

Police fought to save the life of Ashley Ebanks, aged 22, after he was in collision with a black cab at Smallbrook Queensway, near the junction of Hurst Street, in the city centre.

Ashley Ebanks

The student, of Clarkes Lane, had been enjoying a night out with friends and was on his way to the nearby Oceana nightclub when the tragedy happened in the early hours of Sunday, March 6. An inquest was opened into his death today at Birmingham Coroner's Court and adjourned until June 6.

Mr Ebanks' family released a tribute to their son. It read: "Throughout Ashley's life he wholeheartedly persevered – whether it be with football, education or life.

Achieved

"Ashley achieved much in his life. One of his many achievements included winning a prestigious award, Sandwell Student of the Year 2007 in Business and Accountancy.

"Ashley also won various football awards which illustrated his physical prowess.

"Over the years Ashley grew from a relatively quiet child into a confident, mature and focused young man. Ashley was loved by all."

Nearly 1,500 people have joined a Facebook group set up in Mr Ebanks's memory.

The road was closed for six hours after the crash. Police questioned the 35-year-old taxi driver but said he was not arrested.

Mr Ebanks's funeral will be held on March 21 at Holy Trinity Church in West Bromwich.

Witnesses to the collision are urged by police to call (0121) 322 6098.

Chippy is first among fryers

Hermes Kafetzis, proud recipient of the 2011 Fish and Chip Shop Award chosen by Chronicle readers

A CHIPPY in West Bromwich bagged more than half the votes to scoop The Chronicle's 2011 Fish and Chip Shop award.

Chapman Chippy, of Whitehall Road, ran for Sandwell's best chip shop in the vote on February 17.

Owner, Mr Hermes Kafetzis, is now proudly displaying his certificate behind the counter.

Best

Mr Kafetzis, who opened the shop just two years ago, said: "I was so pleased when I heard that we had won and I was very overwhelmed to be crowned Sandwell's best chip shop.

"Our produce is always fresh and I believe that the quality of the food and the friendliness of me and my staff are what got us the votes.

"The customers have been very positive and I am so pleased that we have been able to gain this award for them."

The chip shop owner also won the award eight years ago, for his shop in Chapman Street. It was here that the name for his newly awarded establishment got its name.

The vote, which ran in conjunction with National Chip Week, saw more than 100 votes cast, with over half going towards Chapman's.

Nicola Cope, sales supervisor at Sandwell Chronicle, said: "We were surprised at how many votes were sent in.

"Chapman's kindly sent a bag of chips to the staff here on the day that he was awarded with his certificate. Everybody said how nice they were, it was a wonderful gesture."

Missing conman found at city b&b

A CONVICTED Oldbury conman who went missing after being found guilty of cheating more than 130 businesses across the UK out of money has been jailed.

A manhunt was launched for Geoffrey Stevens after he failed to turn up to court to be sentenced last month after a jury at Worcester Crown Court found him guilty of fraud following a seven-week trial.

The court had been told that Stevens was the lead member in a Midland-based operation to fleece firms by pretending to help them obtain government grants.

Stevens, aged 68, of Moore Crescent, Oldbury, was finally captured at a Birmingham bed and breakfast hotel on Thursday, where police found him with several false passports and a false driving licence.

Four months were added to his six-year sentence for failing to surrender to the court.

Shocked

Mr John Attwood, defending, said Stevens had been so shocked by the guilty verdict he had taken an overdose of aspirin, blood pressure tablets and alcohol, and awoke in a daze too late to attend court on the day he was due to be sentenced.

But Judge John Cavell said he found anything the defendant had to say was "completely unbelievable" and said his apology for not turning up was "hollow".

"You are an utterly dishonest man," he added.

Black Country fish are moved to Peak District

ANGLERS are furious after fish were taken from a Black Country canal to boost stocks in a Peak District reservoir.

British Waterways has netted the fish from Tividale Quays, telling anglers they are being moved 70 miles to Toddbrook reservoir, where people are charged to fish.

The netting took place last week on the Upper Birmingham canal, which runs through Oldbury.

Angler Fred Rich, aged 59, of Paganel Drive, Dudley, said: " Fish from Toddbrook reservoir were put into the canal network in the Midlands when it was drained, but not into the section now being netted. It doesn't seem fair that they are taking our fish to replace them.

"British Waterways has sent us an email explaining that they can make money by charging people to fish there.

"Apparently they have a licence to remove 9,000lb of fish."

Mark Woodley, aged 39, of Monins Avenue, a father-of-two, said: "I have two small children and I love taking them fishing. This is a canal basin where fish gather to spawn. It seems there is no real reason for this other than money."

In an email to residents Carl Nicholls, fisheries and angling manager for British Waterways, said carp have been left in the canal but other species, including bream and tench, had been taken.

He said: "British Waterways had to completely drain one of our reservoirs for major works to the valves at the base of the dam. This required all the fish to be removed and rehomed. The fish were rehomed in Midlands canals. The works have been completed and has now refilled and we are in the process of restocking it."

Poppy 'field' at memorial

A POPPY field reminiscent of the battlefields of Flanders is to be created in the heart of Wednesbury.

The tribute to commemorate the fallen of the First and Second World Wars will also see crumbling graves restored at Wood Green Cemetery.

The sea of poppies will be planted behind the existing war memorial at the military sections of the cemetery. As well as acting as a permanent memorial to the dead, the poppies will also mark the 90th anniversary of the Royal British Legion, which was founded in 1921.

The idea is the brainchild of the Friends of Wood Green Cemetery, a fundraising group set up to maintain the historic cemetery, which dates back to 1868.

The group was created after yobs defaced tombstones and damaged monuments in a series of attacks.

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Golden days at luncheon club

Members of the luncheon club at their Easter bonnet competition during the mid 2000s

The club's founder member Rosland Steele with her husband Eric

Mary Timmins, Jean Slater, Bertha Bissell, Bessie Nagy, Janet Atkins and Dorothy Nemedi the organiser

Albert Hall, on his first visit to the club with, Irene Dipple, Pearl Griggs, Alison Rock, Florence Mills, who is the longest serving member, and Jenny Hall, also on her first day, looking at the club's photo album

A LUNCHEON club which meets at a Black Country beauty spot has celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Members of the Golden Years Social Club have enjoyed some 2,500 lunches over the years and last week met at their weekly club in Langley Park in Oldbury to mark the occasion.

The club was founded by Rosland Steele and for the past nine years has been run by Dorothy Nemedi and six volunteers.

Members originally used to meet at Langley Hall but the club later moved to Langley Lodge in Langley Park – a converted park keeper's house – where it remains today. Around 85 people attended last Tuesday's event and enjoyed a buffet followed by trifle

Mrs Nemedi said: "I was a bit nervous to make sure the event went well.

" I have put in a lot of hard work and it was worth it seeing everyone there."

Trips

She added: "I have to do a lot of events to raise money from cake sales and we rely on donations. We go on five trips a year and always try and do one seaside trip and the others are more local places of interest nearer to home."

Members also enjoy bingo and sometimes welcome guest speakers to their meetings.

Florence Mills, aged 92, has been a member for 20 years and likes to attend the luncheon club as a social occasion and for the trips out.

She said: "There are some excellent trips. I'm not able to go on them all but it's nice and I've made some really good friends over the years.

"Different friends came and joined me in the group. Mrs Steele was a good leader and Dorothy has taken over and we have all followed her and she's really good."

She added: "There's some mischievous characters but I'm not one of them."

The event was attended by the Mayor of Sandell Councillor Pauline Hinton and during the event a 50th anniversary cake was cut to mark the golden day.

Cllr Hinton said: "I think its fantastic they are celebrating 50 years.

Work

"You don't get many helpers like Dorothy. She was telling me how hard she works and all sorts of things to make money.

"She keeps the club going here on a Tuesday morning without any assistance from anyone else, that's just wonderful ."

Mrs Nemedi added that the secret to the success of the club was hard work.

She added: "You've got to keep at it and try to raise money.

"It's hard to get volunteers these days isn't it. I've got six good volunteers so I don't need any more."

Official closure of court

WEST Bromwich's historic court house will officially close on March 31.

The listed magistrates court building in Lombard Street West has been closed since the start of January under plans to save more than £41 million.

All court cases have since been moved to Warley Magistrates Court in Oldbury.

Zoe Campbell, spokeswoman for Her Majesty's Courts Service, said the building was expected to be formally closed at the end of this month. A decision has not yet been made on what will be done with the site.

As well as West Bromwich, Halesowen Magistrates Court and Kidderminster and Stourbridge County Courts, which handle bankruptcy cases and civil matters, will also close.

Beryl's library honour

A SCHOOL in Oldbury has opened its newly-refurbished library after a £2,000 facelift.

The library at Perryfields Primary in Apsley Road has been named after Beryl Ball, who was linked with the school for more than 50 years until she died last year. She was a parent when the school opened in the 1950s and later became a cleaner and caretaker. After retiring, she worked as a volunteer, helping to teach pupils how to read. Mrs Ball, who was in her 80s, lived in Oldacre Road.

The library has new shelves, seating, computer and a new reading area.

Relatives of Mrs Ball were invited to the launch.

Headteacher Terry Jones said: "With all the time she spent here we felt it only right we dedicate the library to her."

Tournament

BRITISH Transport Police are organising a five-a-side football tournament for youngsters in West Bromwich on April 13 at Kenrick Park for people aged 11 to 16.

There will be a prize for the winning team. Suitable footwear for concrete and grass will be required. To register, call or text 07771 668 395 with the name of your team.

Trust status is new start at school

AN OLDBURY school has become Sandwell's first 'Trust' school.

Moat Farm Junior School in Oldbury is one of 114 schools nationwide which was given the go-ahead to join the Government's Trust Schools Programme, which aims to boost achievement.

The programme plans for schools to draw on the expertise of other schools, colleges and businesses to raise standards and offer new opportunities to pupils and staff.

As a Trust school, the Brookfields Road school will draw on the expertise of stakeholders. These include West Bromwich Albion, Barnardo's and Sandwell College.

The school held a official launch day earlier this month attended by representatives of the new stakeholders and also by the school's governors.

Julie Wagstaff, parent support worker at the trust school, welcomed the move. She said: "These trust schools are very similar to the big society idea the Government is pushing at the moment in that it is involving partners coming into the community.

"Parents will also be more involved and pupils will benefit ultimately, so it's very much a case of a bigger society coming in to help the school."

Family

Councillor Bob Badham, the authority's children and education chief, said: "We would hope that trust schools remain part of the family of Sandwell schools and work in partnership with the local education authority."

The Department for Children, Schools and Families will provide funding.

The launch event saw performing arts workshops and family learning classes by Sandwell College, and quizzes and penalty shoot-outs with Albion staff. Barnardo's workers showcased a buddy scheme to tackle bullying.

GPs unite

GP practices in Sandwell and Birmingham have formed a consortium to work together to decide how NHS money should be spent.

The 19 practices which have 150,843 patients between them have formed the Health-Works Commissioning Consortium.

Under the pathfinder consortia programme, GP practices will work together to manage their local budgets and commission services for patients directly with other NHS colleagues and local authorities.

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Warley court watch

RECENT convictions at Warley Magistrates Court included:

Kris Odaine Millwood, aged 27, of Rosedale Avenue, Smethwick: Given a 12-month conditional discharge, fined £65 with £85 costs and ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge for being in possession of a quantity of cannabis and for failing without reasonable excuse to surrender to custody at Warley Magistrates Court having been released on bail.

Gullfroze Ahmed, aged 37, of Clopton Road, Birmingham: Fined £130 with £85 costs, ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge and endorsed five points on licence for driving a Honda on Ringway being involved in an accident whereby damage was caused to a Vauxhall Astra failing to provide name and address details to a person having reasonable grounds for requiring him to do so, and for failing to report the accident to the police as soon as was reasonably practicable or within 24 hours.

Simon Wheeler, aged 30, of Glastonbury Road, Stone Cross: Given an additional 20 hours' unpaid work and ordered to pay £50 costs for failing without reasonable excuse to comply with a community requirement of a suspended sentence.

Nali Karim Ahmed, aged 23, of Thynne Street, West Bromwich: Fined £85 with £100 costs and ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge for having failed to promptly notify the Department for Work and Pensions in the prescribed manner of a change of circumstances, namely that he was working, which he knew would affect his entitlement to income support.

Keith Vernon Charvis, aged 40, of Friezland Lane, Brownhills: Fined £65 with £60 costs, ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge and endorsed four points on licence for driving a Vauxhall Zafira on the A34 Birmingham Road at junction with Peakhouse Road while exceeding the speed limit.

Aaron Cooper, aged 30, of Sanders Crescent, Tipton: Fined £100 with £60 costs and ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge for driving a Citroen Berlingo on the A41 Birmingham Road failing to produce a licence, MoT or insurance upon examination.

Stephen David Horsley, aged 36, of Old College Drive, Wednesbury: Fined £215 with £60 costs, ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge and endorsed six points on licence for driving a Peugeot 106 in Chestnut Road without insurance.

Lakhtar Jagpal, aged 49, of Heather Road, Smethwick: Fined £100 with £60 costs, ordered to pay £15 victim surcharge and endorsed six points on licence for driving a Ford Fiesta in Oldbury Road without insurance.

THE following have been convicted for failing without reasonable excuse to comply with the requirements of a community order:

Lee Rogers, aged 23, of Menin Road, Tipton: Unpaid work increased by 20 hours and ordered to pay £50 costs.

Richard Dwayne Simpson, aged 22, of Clent Road, Oldbury, Warley: Given an additional 18 hours' unpaid work and ordered to pay £50 costs.

Gambler took mother's ring

A GAMBLING addict admitted stealing more than £800 worth of jewellery from his family to pay for his habit.

Prosecutor Maxine Jarrousse told Warley Magistrates Court last week that Joseph Barker, aged 20, had taken his mother's gold wedding ring, engagement ring and bracelet from her home in Great Barr to pawn to pay for his gambling problem.

Barker, of no fixed abode, had also stolen around £800 worth of jewellery from his stepmother's home in Wingfield Road, Great Barr.

Jewellery

Miss Jarrousse said: "It was Mr Barker's mother who found receipts from a pawn shop for jewellery in his bedroom, and went to look in her jewellery box to discover her items were missing."

Barker, who admitted theft, was remanded in custody until he is sentenced on March 22.

Work starts on HP site

CONSTRUCTION of a £9 million cash and carry store on the site of Birmingham's landmark former HP Sauce factory has started, marking the beginning of a £35m scheme

The site in Aston is being developed by West Bromwich-based East End Foods and the first phase, set to be completed in September, will create 95 jobs.

The second phase of the development is due to start in 2012 with the construction of a 15 storey, four-star hotel and a 1,200 person capacity conference centre costing £26 million, creating more than 200 jobs.

Technology

The first phase of the scheme will see the creation of a 100,000 sq ft wholesale cash and carry and distribution centre. The site will also house a 30,000 sq ft 'urban farm and technology centre'.

Headteacher stole from school funds

A HEADTEACHER who took more than £7,000 of funds set aside for children at a Sandwell school and spent it on her family has been spared a jail term.

Ann Regan bought fancy dress items for her stepdaughter's hen party with some of the cash.

The money was was taken from Hamstead Infants School in Great Barr between July 2009, and June 2010.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court last week, Regan was given a 10-month prison sentence suspended for two years.

Prosecutor Mr Julian Elcock told the court Regan visted websites to order items on behalf of the Tanhouse Avenue school and printed off web pages that detailed the cost of what she said she had ordered, so she could claim the money back.

Ann Regan – loss of respect

Party

In one transaction, 44-year-old Regan, of Moorfield Drive, Sutton Coldfield, submitted an invoice to the school so she could receive payment for party items for her stepdaughter's hen party.

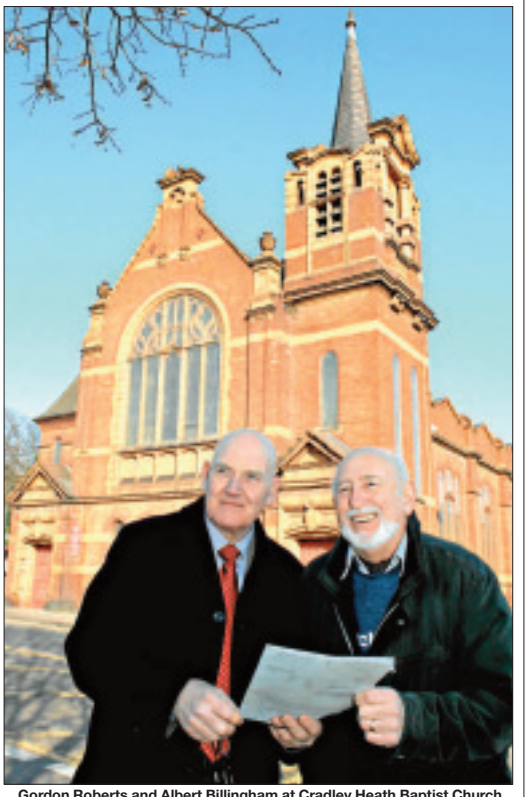
She was rumbled when cameras she supposedly ordered on behalf of the school could not be found. She was unable to produce genuine receipts for the order.

Mr Nicholas Berry, for Regan, who is no longer head teacher at the school, said his client started making the 'orders' after getting into difficulty with loan and credit card repayments.

He said she had paid back in the region of £5,000 to the school.

Judge John Wait said Regan had suffered "significant" punishment with the loss of respect and trust of her former colleagues.

Church £200,000 funding bid



Gordon Roberts and Albert Billingham at Cradley Heath Baptist Church

THE congregation of a Grade II-listed church in Cradley Heath has applied for £200,000 worth of English Heritage funding.

The Cradley Heath Baptist Church fundraising committee say the building needs restoration work.

Project manager Gordon Roberts said: "We need to bring this Edwardian building into the 21st century, and the work needs to be done as carefully and sympathetically as we can."

They hope to find out if their application has been successful at the end of this month.

On March 26 Knowle Male Voice Choir will be holding a concert at the church to help raise funds. Tickets are £5 and can be bought on the door or by phoning (0121) 550 0926.

Thousands paid out due to potholes damaging vehicles

THOUSANDS of pounds in compensation is being paid out by Sandwell Council due to damage caused to cars by potholes.

Figures released under the Freedom of Information Act reveal in 2009/10 there were 137 claims against the council by motorists, of which 40 were successful and the resulting payout figure totalled £11,849.60. There were 74 claims for damage made in 2008/09. Of these, 22 were successful and a total sum of £5,398.60 was paid out.

To the end of January this year there had already been 14 claims lodged against the council with £10,341 paid out.

One driver affected was Aman Klair, owner of Universal Couriers in Oldbury Road, West Bromwich. He said: "My van has really bad suspension damage from the potholes. It is ridiculous how bad they are. Because Sandwell is quite an industrial area I don't think some of the roads down estates are maintained."

Taxi boss Jason May, from Greets Green Cars in Grice Street, said potholes in the district were "terrible".

He said: "They are awful. The area around Hateley Heath is particularly bad. We always look out along Sussex Avenue as that is a really bad area too.

"I was driving behind a car the other day which had a bumper sticker on the back. It said 'I'm not drunk, I'm just dodging potholes' – which sums up how bad it is."

Council bosses say freezing weather conditions damaged the roads and may have been responsible for the rise in claims.

Earlier this year a new five-man team of inspectors was set up by Sandwell Council to improve its monitoring of roads.

Go-ahead likely for extension of the tip

AN expansion of Sandwell's main domestic rubbish dump, as part of a £20 million scheme to improve waste services, was likely to be approved by planning bosses this week.

Serco, which runs the borough's £650 million waste contract, wants to revamp the existing Shidas Lane Household Recycling Centre in Oldbury.

Under the proposals the site will have new offices and improved access, and more vehicles will be able to queue inside the site, rather than on the public roads leading into the area.

The new offices will include meeting rooms a canteen, storage and reception. There will also be new parking and the vehicle wash and refuelling point will be relocated.

An on-site canteen will also open out on to a covered patio area and changing rooms will be provided.

Members of Sandwell's planning committee were recommended to approve the scheme at a meeting on yesterday (Wednesday).

In a report to the committee, planning officer John Baylay, states: "The scheme has been the subject of extensive discussions.

Concern

It added: "The layout of the site and the appearance of the offices are acceptable."

"The main issue of concern is the congestion caused by householders queuing in Shidas Lane to enter the Household Recovery Centre.

"The development will increase the space within the site for drivers to queue and manoeuvre and it is, in my opinion, likely that the situation will be improved."

Serco's £20m plans for the borough include a new £15m waste treatment plant in Hill Top, West Bromwich. Construction of the Eagle Recovery Transfer Hub will create 95 jobs and 20 contracts for local firms, while 10 people will run the plant when it opens.

Wartime tale at The Public

GOUCHER'S War, the latest production by Theatre Alibi, will be performed at The Public in West Bromwich on April 8.

Set in 1942, it tells the story of the Rev Donald Goucher, a vicar and popular children's author blessed with a wildly fertile imagination.

With Britain at war with Germany, Colonel Pynchon is increasingly desperate to find ways to undermine the enemy through sabotage but his staff do not have the right kind of imagination.

Patriotic

Pynchon approaches Goucher and, appealing to his sense of patriotic duty, asks him to dream up stories about creating havoc behind enemy lines.

Tickets for the performance, which starts at 8pm, are £8 advance or £10 on the door.

For tickets and details, call 0121 533 7161 or visit www.thepublic.com

Breaking the ground are, from left, Sandwell Primary Care Trust Chairman Richard Nugent, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust Chairman Sue Davis, Councillor John Edwards and head of midwifery Elaine Newell

Work starts on maternity unit

WORK on Sandwell's £1 million maternity unit has begun and the centre is being named Halcyon.

The centre is being built on the site of the former Leasowes School in Oldbury Road, Smethwick. It is set to be completed by October and will deal with about 600 births a year.

The long term plan is that the £370 million hospital in Smethwick will eventually include a maternity unit and midwifery-led birthing centre.

Kathryn Gutteridge, lead maternity consultant said: "This new unit will have a spa-like feel. Ideas and designs have been developed from the successes of the Serenity Birth Unit at City Hospital.

"Anyone who has visited that unit will agree that it is a homely environment which does not look or feel like a hospital. This is what we want to replicate and develop for the new stand-alone unit in Sandwell.

Choose

"Every room will have facilities to provide women with a water birth if they choose to and will offer women a safe place to give birth if they are assessed as having a straightforward, uncomplicated pregnancy."

Taxis for pupils cost council more than £2m

SANDWELL Council is spending millions on taxis taking children to and from school.

Sandwell forked out £2,377,881 in 2009/10, prompting calls by opposition Tory councillors to look at alternatives.

The huge bill covers some 620 pupils with special educational needs, with the average cost per child for 2009/10 working out at £3,835.

The youngsters entitled to use the service are judged incapable of walking to school or it is considered too dangerous for them.

Savings

Councillor Ray Nock, leader of the council's Conservative group, said: "We only pay £4,000 on education per pupils per year. For that amount of money, we could have our own bus company.

"We're asking that the council revisit this issue, sympathetically to the needs of children, and look at efficiency savings. We have got to look at alternative methods of transport."

Councillor Bob Badham, the borough's children's chief, said he had already given officers the task of linvestigating alternative transport. He said: "It's quite obvious we can't go on spending like that.

"There are three main costs associated with children's services: placements, legal costs and transport, and it's an area we're investigating thoroughly."

One cost-cutting plan being investigated in Dudley, where the annual cost of taxis is £2.2 million, is a buddy scheme. Children who take taxis could end up using public transport accompanied by an adult. The scheme is being trialled with two children, £6,600 a year.

McCartney's tribute performed

BIRMINGHAM Choral Union and Orchestra perform a classical piece by former Beatle Paul McCartney, Ecce Cor Meum (Latin for Behold My Heart) in concert at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday night. McCartney was inspired to write the piece in tribute to his late wife Linda. The concert will also feature Vaughan Williams' Dona Nobis Pacem. Tickets cost £15.

High-rope adventure park vision

An impression of how the rope park will look

THIS is the first image of a high-rope adventure park that could be built at Sandwell Valley in West Bromwich at a cost of £250,000.

The artist's impression shows the assault course could include a variety of swings, climbing nets, a suspension bridge and timber sculptures. A 164ft zip wire and roundabout will also be included.

Plans for the attraction, which will be run by a private operator, have been submitted by Sandwell Council. If approved it will be the borough's largest outdoor adventure playground, aimed at youngsters aged between five and 13.

Funds for the project would come from the Play Pathfinder Capital Programme, Government money to improve play facilities.

Although the adventure playground aspect of the scheme would be free, it is proposed to charge for the high rope element.

Walsall saddle makers Tipton's Michael Roper, top, and Scott Smith with their awards

Craftsmanship pays at a top competition

TWO saddle makers from a Black Country company are helping to keep the area at the forefront of the leather industry after winning a national competition.

Michael Roper and Scott Smith, who work at Ryder Saddlery, Walsall, both won awards at the Master Saddlers' Annual Saddle Competition.

Their saddles were judged to be the best in their respective categories. Mr Roper, aged 22, of Tipton, won first prize in the trainee class while Mr Smith, of Bradley, Bilston, won first prize in the open class. He also received a premium award for top marks.

The winners were announced at a ceremony at Saddle Hall in London.

Apprentice

Glen Farnell, owner of the Navigation Street firm, said: "We're very proud of them. It is great to have two award winners with us.

"Michael is an apprentice and he has a very promising future ahead of him, while Scott has been with us for around two years.

"The craftsmanship on their saddles was outstanding and the best in the competition."

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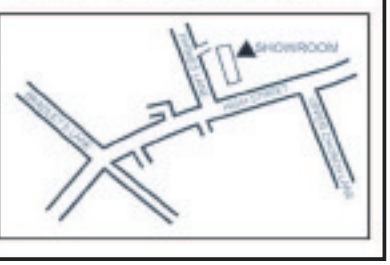

Construction of borough's £77m college on target

WORK on the £77 million Sandwell College building in West Bromwich is almost complete after two years, with the building on course to open to 10,000 students at the start of next year.

Erecting the superstructure is now done, with workers turning their attention to the glazed roof of the building, which is being constructed on the corner of Spon Lane.

The 350-ton blue tower crane used to erect the framework has now been removed as the glass is put in.

Project manager Mark Green said: "Now that the main tower crane has been removed from site, we can start work on the glazed atrium roof."

The huge operation to dismantle the crane was followed by scaffolding so the windows can go in.

The striking modern outline and sweeping curves are clear from this angle

Winds

Despite delays caused by high winds and winter, work on the building in Spon Lane is expected to be completed on schedule in November. The first students are due next January.

The state-of-the-art campus will cater for 10,000 students and will replace the existing campuses in West Bromwich, Oldbury and Smethwick.

For the latest view of the building work, watch the live webcam feed which is available at the website: http://skycam.sandwell.ac.uk.

Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell Council's jobs and economy chief, said: "It will fit in well with The Public and surrounding areas of regeneration including the police station and new offices at All Saints."

He added the economy will be given a boost from thousands of students using the college and socialising in the town.

An artist's impression of the new college

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Hit-and-run drunk driver who hit shelter is jailed

A DRUNK motorist who offered a garage mechanic £4,000 to "hide" his father's BMW after driving it into a West Bromwich bus stop, injuring two people, has been jailed.

Sanjeev Jhim made no effort to help the victims who were left lying in the street among the remains of the shelter, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The speeding car careered out of control when Jhim fell asleep at the wheel after taking the S-Reg 5-Series without permission to buy cigarettes the morning after a late-night drinking session, explained prosecutor Mark Phillips.

Bus user Dhanwant Singh Bahra managed to pull Annette Whitaker – who was waiting for a bus alongside him – out of the way of the BMW but both suffered cuts, bruises and shock.

Jhim, aged 26, did not stop after crashing into the shelter in Hill Top, West Bromwich.

He continued past both his home and The Sow and Pig pub in Hill Top, where he had earlier downed five pints and a rum, to a nearby garage – despite the car having two flat tyres, a broken window and extensive damage to the passenger side.

Mechanic

As mechanic Sean Smith checked the vehicle, four police cars rushed past.

"Jhim began to shake and breathe heavily and said to Mr Smith, 'Put it in the depot, hide it for me, and I will give your four grand'."

Mr Smith put two and two together and called the police who arrested the defendant minutes later," said Mr Phillips.

An hour after the 8.30am crash on June 19, Jhim still tested more than two-and-a-half times the drink-drive limit, the court heard.

The Esso petrol station from which he bought the cigarettes was less than three-quarters of a mile from his home where he had fallen asleep on the sofa for a few hours after drinking heavily.

"He awoke, wanted a cigarette and went to a service station," said Stephen Blower, defending. "He then felt drowsy and had this horrendous accident."

He said Jhim denied wanting to hide the car but asked for it to be removed so that his father would not know about the accident.

Jhim admitted aggravated vehicle taking, dangerous driving and attempting to pervert the course of justice.

He was jailed for 18 months and banned from driving for two years.

The Hill Top shelter after Jhim smashed into it injuring two people

The damaged BMW car

Bus stop hero is rewarded for saving woman

A JUDGE ordered £400 be paid out of public funds to a brave man whose quick-thinking rescued a woman by pullng her out of the path of an out-of-control car.

Dhanwant Singh Bahra was recognised in court for the courage he showed in dragging Annette Whitaker out of the way of the BMW, despite putting himself in harm's way.

The car wrecked the shelter as the two pedestrians waited for a bus during the morning rush hour.

Judge John Wait told driver Sanjeev Jhim, who was jailed (see report left): "If he had not dragged the lady out of the way, and the bus shelter had not been there, these two people would almost certainly have been killed and you would be facing many years in prison.

Quick

"The quick-thinking actions of Mr Bahra when faced by an oncoming motor car, and imperilling his own safety while pulling Miss Whitaker to safety, are worthy of an award from public finds that I hope will be eventually presented to him by the High Sheriff of the County."

He said commendation letters should go to Mr Bahra and to mechanic Sean Smith, whose tip led to the drunk driver's arrest.

Miss Whitaker and Mr Bahra suffered cuts and bruises in the incident and Mr Bahra had chest and ribs pain.

Jhim told police it was "like a bowling ball going through skittles" as the BMW hit the shelter after he nodded off at the wheel.

"I thought I had collided with something but was unaware that I had hit the bus stop," he said.

"I panicked because I was not insured and should not have been driving.

"My primary concern was to get the car repaired without my father knowing, although I accept that this would also have concealed my involvement from the police and others."

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Work on huge development in Smethwick starting soon

DEMOLITIONS ahead of a long-awaited £42 million redevelopment in Smethwick will begin within months.

The Brindley Village II scheme will see 193 homes, shops, roads and open spaces on land bordered by Lewisham Road and Mafeking Road.

Developers PXP West Midlands have revealed they have just three properties left to buy out of the 36 they need to clear the way for the scheme. Sandwell Council has pledged it will use its powers to obtain compulsory purchase orders to aid assembling the site, it is hoped they can be avoided.

PXP West Midlands managing director Mark Stapleton said bulldozers would start on the 11-acre site later this year once the final properties are bought, 10 years after the development was first mooted.

"We've got three properties left to buy, which we're hoping to do by private treaty, and then demolition will start later this year," he said.

Mr Stapleton said work on buying up properties, which began in February 2009, cost more than £8m.

He added though PXP West Midlands was a limited partnership between doomed regional development agency Advantage West Midlands and commercial property development company Langtree, funding would not be affected by AWM winding down.

Invested

"We have no funding from Advantage West Midlands, we own 100 per cent of all our projects," he said.

"Whatever happens to Advantage West Midlands, this is going ahead."

The project is being funded by PXP West Midlands and the Homes and Communities Agency, which has already invested £6.5m.

Planning permission has already been secured.

Ward councillor Paramjit Randhawa welcomed plans at a meeting at Brasshouse Lane Community Centre.

"The area has been blighted for a very long time and this will bring much needed improvements for residents and businesses," she said.

Pictured holding a snake at Great Barr Library is seven year old Adam Campbell from Great Bar with Dudley Zoo's Shaun Crompton

Animal magic

YOUNGSTERS in Great Barr got up close and personal with some serpents as part of a link-up with Dudley Zoo.

Staff from the zoo brought snakes, lizards, rats and ferrets to Great Barr Library for an educational session, which was attended by around 50 children.

The youngsters, aged from three to 10, were taught all about the animals' habitats, diet and ways of life in the hour-long event. Dudley Zoo regularly runs activity sessions at the library.

For more information call the library on (0121) 357 1340.

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Coach company plans move to site near M5

A SANDWELL coach firm is poised to move to a site by the M5 after being forced to make way for the borough's 'super hospital'.

Thandi Executive premises in Smethwick is to be bought by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust after a compulsory purchase order was issued. The new Midland Metropolitan Hospital is to built at land in Grove Lane.

Bosses of the coach firm said they were looking at moving to a site next to Junction 1 of the M5 at West Bromwich. The firm is licensed for 14 coaches and was looking to expand from its current yard and office space on London Street. Owner Ajmal Singh, of Hampstead Glade, Halesowen, who runs the business with twin brother Sukhi Singh, said: "We've seen another plot not far from from Junction 1 of the M5. It's a six-acre site and we would have our workshop, offices and yard all under one roof there."

Mr Singh was speaking at a hearing at the Edgbaston office of the Traffic Commissioner for disciplinary matters, after not having a named transport manager at the firm. The hearing was also to decide if the two licences the company holds – one for college contracts under the name Finesse Coaches, the other for service buses under the name Thandi Transport – were linked to Coach Express trading as Thandi Coaches, which has its licence under threat.

Deputy Traffic Commissioner Miles Dorrington heard Thandi Coaches is run by Ajmal Singh's uncle Amardeep Thandi but the relatives have no business links.

Brothers Ajmal and Sukhi told the hearing their future plans include consolidating the Thandi Transport licence under the name Elite Coaches.

Summer ball

A SUTTON Coldfield company is holding a summer ball for Birmingham Children's Hospital's Heart Appeal.

The event will be held on June 10 at the Lea Marston hotel and spa.

Reflection Marketing held its first charity ball for the heart appeal last October and raised £3,000. Tickets are priced £55 and a minimum £15 of the ticket price goes to the charity. They are available on 0845 519 2201.

Going on a ghost hunt

SMETHWICK Swimming Centre is holding a fund-raising ghost hunt later this month in support of a living museum bid.

The Swimming Centre, in Thimblemill Road, is already listed as a popular ghost hunting venue.

A further event is now taking place on March 26, from 9pm to 2am the following morning, to help raise funds to create a living museum of the wartime air raid shelter located in the centre's subways.

Andy Moore, manager for Sandwell Leisure Trust, said: "Smethwick is now a popular venue for ghost hunts and historians due to the heritage of the building. We hope this event will once again prove to be another sell out."

Those taking part will tour the underground subway system with a paranormal investigation team.

Tickets are available from the centre priced at £20. Those taking part must be aged 18 and above. Call 0845 659 4815 and select option 4.

Andy Moore with centre staff Ian Horton and Kevin Daly looking for ghosts.

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Walter Miles, front centre, with the Mayor of Sandwell Pauline Hinton and David Hinton, and his four surviving children, 16 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, celebrating his 100th birthday

Walter celebrates with family members from far and wide

IT is not often that you are surrounded by quite so many family members.

But in Walter Miles's case, nearly five generations of his family from across the country, and from France, gravitated to Smethwick to wish him a happy 100th birthday on Saturday.

Mr Miles was greeted by his four children, 16 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren, one of whom is due to give birth in the summer.

The family gathered at Thimblemill Recreation Centre in Thimblemill Road.

The secret to a long and happy life, according to Mr Miles, is "not to sit down and look at four walls but get out every day and do something".

A retired driver who lives in Smethwick, Mr Miles also drove with the Royal Artillery during the war, supplying the troops in Burma.

He then swapped the land for the skies, and went on board aircraft to drop supplies to the soldiers on the ground.

Dance

He continued as a driver throughout his adult life and retired aged 65.

He and wife of nearly 50 years, Ida, who died in 1996, had five children together: David, 71, of London; Margaret, who died of cancer nine years ago, aged 60; Michael, 64, of Dorset; Valerie, 61, who now lives in France; and Maureen, 57, of Poole.

Michael said: "For someone who was born in 1911, to see his grandchildren spreading out across the world is great. With all the family getting together there was so much catching up to do. It was a good evening."

He added: "He really means it about getting out and about. He doesn't sit around, he goes out and meets people and a lot of those friends were there at the party.

"He goes to Londonderry Baptist Church and a tea club in Smethwick."

The party included music and food, and Michael said even his centenarian father got up for a quick go on the dance floor.

Driving ban for shamed former TV presenter

SHAMED former TV newsreader Ashley Blake has been banned from driving for 12 months after being convicted of drink driving.

Blake pleaded guilty at Sutton Magistrates Court to driving his BMW motorbike while over limit. Blake had previously worked on road safety campaigns.

The ban comes less than a year after Blake, 41,was released from prison having served nine months of a two year sentence for wounding and attempting to pervert the the course of justice.

The ex-Midlands Today newsreader, of Winchester Court, Vesey Close, Sutton Coldfield, admitted he "should have given more thought" to his condition before riding his bike on January 10, the day after a night out.

He was found to have 91mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood. The legal limit is 80mg.

Fined

He was fined £100 and ordered to pay £105 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Blake said in a statement: "I have been a motorcycle enthusiast for many years during which I have campaigned with West Midlands Police and West Mercia Police for BikeSafe, a course that provides motorcyclists with better road safety skills and awareness."

Blake said that after a night out he deciced to ride his bike.

He added: "I accept I should have given more thought to my own fitness to drive the following day and I would like my own experience to be a reminder to other road users that alcohol could still be in your system even after you've had a full nights sleep and may feel fine to drive."

In September 2009 Blake was jailed for hitting 17-year-old Greg Jones in the face with a wooden pole at a bar he owned in Sutton Coldfield.

Over the limit – Ashley Blake

Man stabbed student over car wash gripe

A MAN who stabbed a student in the neck because he was unhappy with the way he was cleaning his vehicle is starting a five-and-a-half year jail term.

Albanian Besnik Treshani, aged 27, angrily lashed out at Nejad Azari with the blade at the Wing Wah Car Wash in Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, on Christmas Eve 2009.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Mr Azari suffered life-threatening injuries.

Mr Mark Rees, prosecuting, said the 28-year-old victim had been working at the car wash to clear a debt.

The prosecutor said the attack happened after Treshani, of no fixed address, had driven his friend's Mitsubishi Shogun to the car wash. He saw Mr Azari cleaning the windows of the vehicle and repeatedly demanded that he do it again because he was unhappy with the standard of his work.

Mr Rees said Mr Azari moved to try and defuse the situation, but Treshani went over to him and stabbed him in the neck.

The court heard the wound sustained was had the potential to be life threatening.

Deported

Treshani drove away but was arrested after his fingerprints were found on a beer can he threw down at the scene, said Mr Rees.

Mr Tarlowchan Dubb, for Treshani, said it was a "moment of madness." Treshani admitted inflicting grievous bodily harm, possessing an offensive weapon and having a counterfeit Bulgarian ID document. He will be deported to Albania when he has served his sentence.

Det Sgt Mick Greenland, said: "The victim suffered horrific injuries that he is still recovering from."

Concierge claim is thrown out

A CONCIERGE at an apartments block in Birmingham has lost a compensation claim for unfair dismissal after being accused of spending time looking at a pornographic website and ignoring some of his duties.

Desmond Henry, of Marshall Street, Smethwick, was accused at Birmingham Employment Tribunal of putting residents at risk.

Mr Henry made his unfair dismissal compensation claim against Mainstay Facilities Management Ltd which appointed him as a concierge at the Watermarque block of apartments at Ladywood, Birmingham.

Mr Daniel Potter, a management official for the firm, told the tribunal the firm received a complaint that Mr Henry was spending time looking at a website and not carrying out his security duties to the full.

Educational

Mr Potter said health and safety issues arose and it was discovered that Mr Henry was looking at pornography.

He said Mr Henry was suspended and later dismissed for gross misconduct.

Mr Henry denied watching pornography and said the images were educational pictures of human anatomy. Tribunal judge Mrs Margaret Batten said some of the images were in the bundle of evidence – she told Mr Henry: "You may struggle to convince us the pictures were about the human anatomy."

She said the firm's decision to dismiss Mr Henry had been a reasonable response.

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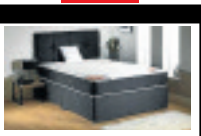
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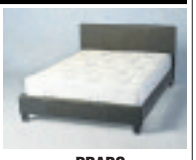
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thechronicle

Phillip Taylor with Kelly Walters, Holly Taylor and salon owner Nicola Warmer

Close shave gives boost to hospice

BIG-hearted Phillip Taylor has shaved off his hair and beard in aid of Compton Hospice.

Mr Taylor, aged 46, of Navigation Lane, West Bromwich, said: "My dad Jack had prostate cancer a couple of years back and got through it and my father-in-law Bill has had myeloma for about 10 years."

The shave was done by his daughter, Holly Taylor, 19, a stylist at Victoria's hairdressers in Hydes Road, Wednesbury.

Mr Taylor added: "One of my partner's friends had breast cancer and the treatment meant she was going to lose her hair so I said I would shave mine off in sympathy."

After – Phillip and Holly Taylor

Email philltaylor@ymail.com to donate.

Plans for homes and businesses at industrial site

MULTI-MILLION pound plans to transform a vandal-plagued industrial estate into as many as 250 homes and businesses will be submitted to council chiefs in the summer.

Developer PxP West Midlands wants to transform the 22-acre Excelsior Trading Estate, on Cakemore Road in Blackheath, into houses and industrial units. The site was once home to Associated Electrical Industries, formed in 1928. It was bought by the General Electric Company in 1967.

In recent years the site has become a magnet for vandals.

In 2009 two thieves were suffocated by carbon dioxide in a bungled metal raid at the former Fontana nuts and bolts factory on the estate, when they triggered a fire alarm system in an electricity sub-station. Travellers moved onto the estate in caravans later the same year.

PxP West Midlands Managing director Mark Stapleton says he will apply for planning permission for the development to give the site a new lease of life.

"We bought the Excelsior Trading Estate site in 2009. We've now cleared the site and we want to turn it into a mixed-use development," he said.

"We're planning an application for later this summer. The site has been a hotbed of industrial activity but it has been in decline for several years.

"We're going to try and put between 200 and 250 homes on the site and industrial units, between 3-5,000 sq ft in size as well.

Cleared

"We own the whole site already and we have cleared the site to get ready for development."

Blackheath Councillor Mary Docker welcomed the scheme.

She said: "Any kind of development will bring people into Blackheath and help the area."

PxP West Midlands is a joint venture partnership between regional development agency Advantage West Midlands, which soon will no longer exist due to cutbacks, and investor and developer Langtree.

AWM's stakes in regeneration projects around the West Midlands are expected to be handed to a national body when the £300 million-a-year quango winds down.

Funding boost at nature reserve

VOLUNTEERS at a Sandwell nature reserve are celebrating after a £36,000 funding boost.

The Friends of Sot's Hole Nature Reserve have secured a Community Spaces grant which will allow vital restoration work, which started five years ago, to continue.

A new circular pathway has already been installed at the reserve in Dagger Lane, West Bromwich, and there are also plans to introduce benches at key points to improve accessibility. Treatment will be carried out on invasive plants to help protect wildlife at the site.

To qualify for the grant, which is managed by Groundwork and funded by The Big Lottery, the friends group submitted a detailed plan to improve the nature reserve for wildlife and the local community.

The plan involved making the reserve more accessible and improving links with the community.

Val Edkins, secretary of the friends group, said: "We had to carefully consider the comments from local people together with the need to maintain the natural environment for wildlife in the reserve.

"The result is a fantastic new circular path around part of Sot's Hole which has never been properly accessible in the past."

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More choices in sixth form at high school

A SMETHWICK secondary school undergoing a £23.5 million facelift has been given permission to run its own sixth form courses.

Holly Lodge Foundation High School College of Science is soon to become the Smethwick Learning Campus. Eighty places will be available for students in the lower sixth from September.

When these students move up into the upper sixth, another 80 students will be taken on.

The school runs a 120-student sixth form through Sandwell College. The move should lead to more funding.

Under this scheme students register with the college but take lessons at the Holly Lodge campus in Holly Lane, Smethwick.By bringing the sixth form in house the school will be able to run more specialist courses.

Mike Perry, business manager at the school, said: "We are delighted that the plans have been given the go-ahead.

"We have successfully provided sixth form learning through Sandwell College but, of course, they received a proportion of the funding to cover the administration costs. Now that will all come to the school.

Courses

"We will be in the position that we can offer smaller courses that the college may not be able to run and will also be able to offer our students courses through the college."

Courses on offer will include GCSEs and A-levels as well as vocational equivalents.

The first phase of the £23.5m rebuild, financed under the Building Schools for the Future programme, was completed last year. More than 1,000 pupils have moved into new glass fronted buildings.

Free weekend at beauty spots and mansions

THE National Trust is giving everyone in the Midlands a spring gift by opening its doors for free on the weekend.

'Midlands Free Time' is being launched by new National Trust Director for the Midlands Beccy Speight, to give those living in and visiting the region the perfect excuse to get out in the fresh air and discover somewhere new.

The weekend of March 19 and 20 will give free access to 34 places cared for by the Trust, which includes spectacular houses, gardens and vast swathes of countryside.

Those wanting to make the most of the free weekend need to download a voucher from the Trust's website at the website:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/midlandsfreetime

Places included in the free scheme include:

West Midlands: Birmingham Back to Backs; Wightwick Manor and Gardens at Wolverhampton.

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Worcestershire: Croome Park; Hanbury Hall; The Greyfriars at Worcester.

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Laura Moores and Jonathan McGee who have won a competition to have their blessing at a Black Country hotel

A right royal day for happy couple

A BRIDEGROOM-to-be who is battling cancer is set to be treated like a prince after he and his fiancee won a hotel's royal wedding competition.

Jonathan McGee and Laura Moores, a teacher at Wood Green Junior School in Wednesbury, will have a blessing ceremony on April 29 – the same day that Prince William and Kate Middleton get married.

Diagnosed

They will dedicate the prize to everyone who has supported them since Mr McGee was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2008. The 41-year-old quantity surveyor has had several operations.

The couple, of Wrens Nest Road, Dudley, had already arranged to get married in Crete on April 20. Mr McGee and Miss Moores, 27, were nominated for the competition run by the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill by friend Paul Gwilliam.

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Expressway's £25m underpass takes shape

A view of the A41 Expressway underpass tunnel being built in West Bromwich

A £25 million underpass being built in the heart of West Bromwich is taking shape.

Work is well under way on the scheme at the A41 Expressway and this recent image shows how the tunnel is progressing. Diggers have begun shifting soil between the walls of the underpass where the road goes under All Saints Way island.

The scheme aims to cut congestion in the town and will see a dual-carriageway underpass run beneath the roundabout where The Expressway meets All Saints Way. The roundabout, next to West Bromwich fire station, is one of the borough's busiest junctions, carrying 63,000 vehicles a day.

Speed

It is hoped the development will improve traffic flow for drivers using the island going from West Bromwich to Birmingham. It is also hoped the underpass will speed up journeys in and around the town, where a £200m shopping and leisure development is being built for Tesco.

The Department for Transport has invested £22m into the scheme, with Tesco contributing £2.2m. It is hoped the underpass will be ready by late 2011.

A webcam monitoring the progress of the works can be viewed at the www.sandwell-a41.co.uk website.

Appeal launched on wedding venue plan

AN APPEAL has been launched against a decision to stop a landmark Sandwell pub being transformed into a wedding venue.

Developers had wanted to transform The Barleycorn in Smethwick.

But the idea was controversially turned down by planners last year, despite it being recommended for approval.

The owners of the site in Bearwood Road, which dates back to the 1930s and has been empty for more than four years, are now awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspectorate.

The site already has the go-ahead to be turned into a casino with permission renewed by Sandwell Council in December.

However, Graham Parker from architects PJ Planning Ltd who are acting as agent for the developer Mr Aslam, said it was unlikely it would ever become a casino. He said the priority was now to secure permission to turn it into a wedding venue.

Mr Parker said: "Mr Aslam, who owns the pub, is appealing against the refusal of planning permission by the council to change it into a wedding venue.

"We appealed against that and it should take about five weeks. There will not be a large casino on that site."

He added the site was "superbly built for weddings", saying : "There is a big demand in that area."

Traffic

"It is also a great use for what in my view is a very interesting building. The council were worried about traffic and that is what the whole thing hinged on."

Under the plans, a 490-seat function room would be created on the ground floor, with a second function room on the first floor. Planners estimate a maximum of 143 spaces would be needed.

The Barleycorn pub in Bearwood Road, Smethwick

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All round the table for a sociable game of dominoes at Victoria Over-50s club

Businessman Douglas Turner, a big donor

Cliff Farnell, front left, George Smith and Tom Perry with, back from left, Ron Burton, Jack Smith, Frank Whorton and Eric Bromley prepare for the anniversary

Half a century simply flies by at social club

A TIPTON social club first established for ageing former soldiers but which today welcomes more women than men now wants to trace its founder members for 50th anniversary celebrations.

Members enjoy a game of snooker at the Tipton club

The former Home Lea Sons of Rest, now known as the Victoria Over-50s, will mark the half-century landmark on May 21, 2011.

As the Victoria Road club's male members cast their eyes back over the decades around the snooker and dominoes tables, they agree that it owes its existence to the dec-ision a decade ago to throw open the doors to the fairer sex.

Club Treasurer Tom Perry, a retired joiner, said: "Ten years ago we got the women involved and the club's name was changed to Victoria Over-50s club. We've got 47 members at the moment, with two-thirds of them being women.

Achievement

"This club would never manage if not for them. Blokes would never admit it, but they're useless on their own," said the 72-year-old retired William Jackson worker, who has been a member for six years.

Frank Whorton, a member at Victoria Over-50s for 20 years, reckons that the change has improved the club. The 83-year-old former purchase manager quipped: "I'm a young 'un here! I've had many fond memories over the years, all being together and having fun playing at dominoes. It's a great achievement that the club is still open and going strong."

Anyone with information about old members can call Pauline Hodgetts on 0121 557 2277

The social club was born out of Tipton's great strength in manufacturing. A former director of the Wellington Tube company in Great Bridge, honorary alderman Douglas Turner, donated £3,000 to pay for the Home Lea Sons of Rest building.

The Vono bed company, which has its headquarters in Dudley Port, Tipton, also donated funds to cover furnishing the club before it opened in 1961.

Such was its popularity, that, in its heyday, the club in Victoria Road boasted a membership of more than 100.

Great-grandfather Ron Burton, formerly a welder at Babcock & Wilcox, the international boiler manufacturing and support services giant, said: "It's a great history to keep up.

"The club's even changed in the six years I've been a member – the building's been painted up and looks great even though it's 50 years old."

Perspective

The club chairman, grandmother Pauline Hodgetts, said: "We're trying to change the perspective of the club with more and more women involved.

"It's a club for the over-50s now, but we're looking back on tradition and trying to trace our old members and their relatives for the anniversary in May."

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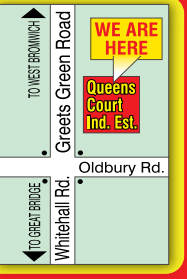

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COMPETITION

thechronicle

Win garden vouchers as part of Velvet's campaign for trees

VELVET are committed to the environment – so much so that for every tree they use, three more are grown.

As part of their Campaign for Trees, Velvet organised a nationwide competition with people up and down the country going online at www.velvettissue.com to vote for the area they felt could benefit from more trees – and Birmingham received the most votes.

As a result, Velvet donated £20,000 to the charity Trees for Cities to give Witton Lakes Park in Stockland Green a much-needed 'green makeover'.

The people of Birmingham clearly love trees as much as Velvet do and recently many of them got all green-fingered with Trees for Cities at Witton Lakes Park, transforming the site into a vibrant, community orchard for everyone to enjoy in the future.

To celebrate, Velvet have teamed up with The Chronicle to offer five lucky winners the chance to each win £50 worth of National Garden Centre vouchers to give their own garden a makeover.

For your chance to win, simply answer this question:

For each tree used to make Velvet tissues, how many trees does Velvet grow?

It is a) None, b) One, c) Three.

Send your answer with your name, address and telephone number on a postcard, or on the back of a sealed envelope, to Velvet Competition, Sandwell and Great Barr Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES. Usual Chronicle rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

Velvet and partner charity Trees for Cities will be posting a photo-journal of the site's transformation on their Facebook pages, so follow the project as it unfolds on the website:

www.facebook.com/velvetscampaignfortrees

Trees for Cities and volunteers plant the young trees at Witton Lakes Park, Stockland Green

star extra TRAVEL

KINGS OF LEON

IN CONCERT AT THE RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY

DAY EXCURSION, 30 MAY 2011, FROM £82.50pp

Kings of Leon have announced details of a series of huge headline outdoor shows next Summer including an eagerly anticipated gig in Coventry.

Their highly acclaimed fifth album 'Come Around Sundown' became their third consecutive album to debut at number 1 when it topped the UK album charts on release, claiming both the biggest week one sales of the year and the biggest ever first week digital sales along the way.

Like last year's Hyde Park show, their forth-coming December 2010 arena shows sold out in seconds and the Kings of Leon's Summer 2011 concerts are set to be one of the highlights of next year's live calendar.

Price includes:

- A General Admission ticket with a face value of £45 for an evening performance of Kings of Leon Live 2011 at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry on the 30 May 2011
- Return coach travel from selected local departure points

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Mrs. H was a passenger when her husband crashed their car. She was very badly injured. At first she did not realise she could claim but she received over £120,000 from her husband's insurers.

Mr. M fell on a wet floor at work and twisted his ankle. He received £2,500 to compensate him for pain and suffering and loss of wages.

Mrs. J slipped in a supermarket on yoghurt that had not been cleared up. She received over £5,000.

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Nice ice baby as stars melt hearts

AFTER wowing more than a million people across the country in previous years with stunning ice performances, skating legends Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean will embark on a fifth live UK tour of Dancing on Ice due to arrive in Birmingham in April

This year's tour features more celebrity skaters from the current ITV1 series than ever before. Torvill and Dean will be joined by bookie's favourite EastEnders actor Sam Attwater, alongside TV presenter Chloe Madeley, Chris Moyles' sidekick Comedy Dave Vitty, children's TV presenter Laura Hamilton, Coronation Street and Loose Women's Denise Welch, singing legend Vanilla Ice and Victoria Cross winner Johnson Beharry.

The tour will also see the welcome return of Dancing on Ice 2010 winner, actress Hayley Tamaddon.

TV personality and one time King of the Jungle Christopher Biggins who debuted as a judge on 2010 tour, returns to the panel alongside skating gold medallist and TV judge Robin Cousins and head skating coach from the ITV series, Karen Barber.

Popular TV presenter Andi Peters returns to host the tour.

All of the celebrities will be trained and choreographed by Torvill and Dean, who will also perform routines choreographed exclusively for the live tour. One further celebrity skater is due to be announced.

Cool customer Vanilla Ice has proved very popular on the show

Decide

The four-week UK tour starting in Sheffield, will also travel to Newcastle, Nottingham, London and Manchester.

At each performance the audience can vote for their favourite celebrity skater. Using the same format as the hit ITV1 show. Spectators can use their mobile phones to text vote for their favourite celebrity.

Audience votes will then be added to scores from the judges to decide the overall celebrity winner. The winning couple then take to the ice for a finale performance.

As with previous tours, all profits from text voting will go to charity. More than £100,000 has been raised to date and has been donated to the Royal London Society For The Blind and Demelza Hospice Care for Children.

The tour starts in Sheffield on Saturday, April 9 and is due to move to Birmingham's NIA on Friday, April 15 and run through there until Monday, April 18. Evening shows take place at 7.30pm on April 15, 16 and 18, and 6.30pm on April 17.

Afternoon shows are at 2.30pm on April 16 and 1.30pm on April 17.

Vanilla Ice will not be performing at all the shows.

To book tickets call 08444 99 99 55 or log onto www.dancingonicetour.co.uk

Tickets - priced from £32.50 (plus booking fee).

Tipped as a possible winner is Laura Hamilton

DJ Emma discovers talent

JON PRITCHARD talks to Emma Scott about her mission to find new talent

A DEVON-based DJ has made a Wolverhampton venue her second home as she bids to find the best new talent coming out of the Midlands.

Emma Scott is on the hunt for the next Robert Plant or Slade and has appropriately made The Slade Rooms the home for her Emma Scott Presents series of gigs.

The gigs, which are also staged in Birmingham, aim to give local bands more exposure and the chance to gain new fans.

She has now written a book and also given a seminar on how to 'break your band' in the music industry.

She said: "I receive hundreds of band's demos every month, and there are some really good ones out there. This is a way of making sure they do the best they can."

Emma Scott moved to Devon in 2009 to continue her radio career after leaving Birmingham-based Kerrang! Radio after five years, which is where she got her taste for the Midlands music scene. Her first Emma Scott Presents gig was at the Little Civic in Wolverhampton in 2007. The gig series was originally going to be once a month but has grown to around six times a month, which means a lot of travelling for Emma. She said: "I spend a lot of time on the M5 but it's all worth it."

Her first seminar, called Break Your Band, was held at The Slade Rooms last month, and around 80 people heard the speech she gave about the music industry from the promoter and DJ's view.

She said: "The feedback I received from the seminar was amazing. I didn't think that many people would turn up and we had a lot of people from bands saying I talked about things they never realised before."

Book

Her book, Break Your Band – A Guide to Getting Radio Airplay, will be available to buy from Amazon next month and advises how to put together the perfect press pack, rules of the radio, which presenters play unsigned music and how to get on a playlist.

She said: "I hate the thought that bands are wasting their time by sending the wrong material, or missing valuable airplay as they've sent their CD to the wrong address, or offended the DJ by spelling his or her name incorrectly.

"As a presenter I get a real buzz when I get a great press pack in the post, and I get even more excited when the quality of the band is great too! I love the thought that the bands will be listening to their songs on the radio."

Emma said: "I guarantee any band who read the book and who follow my guidelines will get radio airplay – as long as their music is good, that is!"

The 39-year-old has been working in radio for 23 years and has received thousands of demos in her time at various radio stations, including Heart FM and Galaxy.

Last November, her most successful gig to date came when Voodoo Johnson headlined at The Slade Rooms. The five-piece from Birmingham have gone on from strength to strength, from supporting 80s-rock band Europe, of Final Countdown fame, to headlining their own UK Tour, which visits Wolverhampton Slade Rooms on April 24.

Another success story is The Whiskey Syndicate, a rock foursome from Wolverhampton who headlined an Emma Scott Presents gig at The Slade Rooms at the beginning of February, and released their EP, Stick or Twisted? this year. Emma said: "I've worked with them a few times and they're great."

The Emma Scott Presents gigs stopped briefly as she relocated near Exeter but were relaunched again last year as another success story, The Lines, brought the series back in style. Since the relaunch, The Lines have gone on to headline the Wulfrun Hall, release their debut album and support local favourites Ocean Colour Scene.

Emma is looking forward to a busy future, with the hope that many of the bands she has nurtured will go on to become staples of the music industry.

PLEASE NOTE: prices are per person unless otherwise stated and travel insurance is not included in the price. Coach pick-up points offered (excluding air, Eurostar breaks plus certain cruises) are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.
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Three days departing June 10

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- Services of a tour driver
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Two days departing May 14

PRICE FROM £119.95

- Return coach travel
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Four days departing May 6

PRICE FROM £239

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- Return coach travel
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women seeking men

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WENDY dark hair/eyes, medium build, seeks male for friendship and see what happens. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361589**

VERY lonely young looking 40's female, solvent, OHAC, seeks younger male for chilled together. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358267**

LONELY blonde widow with no ties, looking for love and romance again with lots of TLC, WLTM similar man. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355247**

I'M Jackie 25, tall attractive single mum missing a man in my life. Sporty, social and ready to date! Please call me. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361365**

LADY 70's, seeks gent of similar age for friendship, days out and holidays. Dudley area. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361043**

HOUR glass figured pretty brunette, 29, stands out in a crowd, looking for open minded friendship. Looks/status/Age unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361363**

GORGEOUS 26yr old independent female with lots to offer to the right person, seeks similar. Willing to travel. Any age/status welcome. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358141**

FRIENDLY outgoing, sociable lady, 34 but looks mid 20's (its true) WLTM adventurous male 18 – 65, I'm open to most ages/things, happy to try most things. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355761**

FED up with lonely nights! Blonde blue eyed, no children/ties, WLTM someone for cosy nights in and TLC. Any age/looks/race. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359165**

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 363428**

EASYGOING female looking to broaden her horizons, WLTM similar for with some romance thrown in for good measure. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361359**

30YRS old curvy black female seeks older male for cosy nights in. ACA **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357143**

ATTRACTIVE 60's lady looking for a good man. Loving, tactile and sensitive can you put the spring back in my step? ACA. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358269**

30YR old attractive confident business women, frequently in area seeks older gent for mutual spoiling, pampering and adult fun. ACA. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358137**

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360317**

SLIM attractive cheerful brunette, enjoys aromatherapy/massage, looking for male who appreciates a feminine, lady. Can travel. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359167**

SHARON tall slim attractive, live alone with no ties, love romanticising and WLTM man for good times together, maybe more. Any age. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359153**

HI I am Ellen 45, attractive with statuesque curvy figure looking for an uncomplicated relationship with understanding male friend. Call me. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356135**

40'S lady, lovely curves, solvent but lonely, seeks nice older male to pamper, enjoy fun and affection with. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358135**

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, seeks male. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 339373**

BUBBLY female, 42, young at heart, honest, caring, likes outdoors, cinema, theatre, meals out, seeks likeminded male/soul mate, 40-50. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357919**

42YR old Sagittarian 5ft 7ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine, caring guy interested in films, meals out, country walks, gardening and travel, 45-55. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358399**

SHROPSHIRE lady 48, slim, attractive, N/S, seeks attractive male, 5ft 10ins plus for good times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359491**

PROFESSIONAL independent lady, 49, slim, blonde, attractive, varied interests, seeks intelligent, romantic, sincere, genuine male with GSOH for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359351**

BRIGHT bubbly, adventurous, outgoing, honest, trustworthy female, some and find me. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359235**

WHITE 50's genuine modern West Brom female, divorced, easygoing, seeks fit modern male, 50-60 for LTR. Car owner preferred. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 358855**

SHROPSHIRE lady, 61, likes countryside, sea, travel, cooking, sewing, lived on farm, seeks special genuine gent for nice match. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 334241**

CARING and honest lady 61, 5ft 2ins, WLTM very caring and honest gentleman. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357985**

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 329319**

KIND romantic, loving lady, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 357751**

SUE attractive, slim, 50's, green eyes, varied interests, trendy, OHAC, seeks special guy. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 180587**

FEMALE 51, slim, 5ft 4ins, genuine, caring, seeks soul mate who is genuine and caring. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356761**

SLIM professional, attractive, amiable lady, 55, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH and enjoys the good things in life. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356411**

OPEN friendly Christian female, professional, seeks kind, caring, Christian male for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 348867**

LINDA 70's, likes theatre, dancing, seeks nice gent for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355891**

ATTRACTIVE 40yr old female, brunette, slim, trendy, no ties, high morals, seeks slim male for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 316619**

SLIM attractive 44yr old female, N/S, no ties, likes travel, nights out, seeks male, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 341491**

ATTRACTIVE female, 42, slim, brunette, no ties, N/S, likes travel, nights out, weekends away, seeks slim male for possible relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327579**

DO you know what women want? 40yr old petite lady needs spoiling and lots of love by attractive male, 45-55. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 327573**

HELEN 38, one child, blonde hair, 5ft 6ins, slim, attractive, likes swimming, dancing, seeks male, 43-53 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 331399**

MICHELLE black British, 30, curvy, slim, size 12, 5ft 5ins, sociable, friendly, understanding, loving, seeks male, 30-36 to enjoy romantic nights. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 317945**

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine, caring male for relationship. Telford. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 354533**

LADY N/S, car owner, seeks lonely, retired gent with old fashioned values for friendship/days out and holidays. Stourbridge. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 354183**

YVETTE pretty, stylish, modern, 44, outgoing, bubbly, sporty, seeks male for nights in/out. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 351997**

men seeking women

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GRAHAM slim, 66, young outlook, fit, seeks genuine, intelligent lady with GSOH, 50-60's for LTR. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361665**

KEITH 75, likes walks, socialising, seeks lady 65-75 for friendship, meals out etc. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361643**

HANDSOME attractive, fit, professional trucker, 38, WLTM attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 219790**

ROBERT slim, intelligent, N/S, 50's, seeks attractive, younger female for uncomplicated friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 312443**

YOUNG 60yr old male, tall, fit, friendly, seeks similar lady for friendship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361489**

BARRY slim 6ft, 66, clean, good looking, active, seeks female. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361471**

HANDSOME male, 41, tactile, romantic, likes meals out, days out, walks, nights in, seeks sensitive, intelligent female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 322561**

TALL handsome male, 41, GSOH, likes romantic days/nights in/out, WLTM attractive, down to earth, young lady, 35-55, size unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 346611**

ATTRACTIVE male, 38, seeks slim, attractive, caring female for friendship, hopefully LTR. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 227154**

33YR old male, average looks, attractive personality likes shopping, eating out and music seeks a female, 25-35, for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 126966**

MALE young active 68, 5ft, black hair, N/S, non drinker, N/S, likes most things, seeks female, 30-36, attractive and slim for romantic future. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361159**

27YR old male, seeks genuine female of similar age for friendship and nights out. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361299**

BRIAN single dad, likes pool, cinema, football, seeks female for fun, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 306121**

32YR old guy, likes music, cooking, joking, seeks female, 40-45 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 332365**

SOUL girl wanted, age 45-55! **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 356855**

SENSITIVE tactile, 50's male, athletic, likes art, travel, gym, seeks slim, attractive, N/S female to enjoy meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 311497**

OK kind of a guy, 50's, looks and styled younger, good standard of living, like to share with slim, attractive, N/S female. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 364634**

MODERN athletic 50's male, stylish, seeks slim, attractive, N/S female, 40-50 to share better lifestyle. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 314349**

40YR old divorced male, seeks female, any age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 300741**

THOUGHTFUL attractive, sporty, adventurous guy 38, OHAC, good job, seeks attractive female, 25-45. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 323931**

MALE 46, N/S, seeks female to sparkle back into life. Wolverhampton. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 353781**

MALE 35, OHAC, good job, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, cinema, sports, seeks female, 27-39 with similar interests. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 295072**

ATTRACTIVE male, 58, fit, N/S, OHAC, like wine bars, theatre, dancing, seeks attractive slim female, 50-58 for lasting relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360699**

MALE 55, likes pubs, sports, meals out, travel, holidays, seeks female, 30-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360617**

ATTRACTIVE male, 50, seek lady for film/photo fun. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 360091**

CHARMING fit 41yr old professional male, seeks lively, caring companion for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 359945**

46YR old male, 5ft 5ins, blue eyes, short hair, N/S, intelligent, likes swimming, fishing, walks, days out, seeks similar honest female. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 352575**

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MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 311892**

BI male 44, tall, seeks bi male for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361441**

MARK 42, seeks guy 18-35 for fun, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 361247**

GAY male, 55, seeks similar gay male, 18-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 6562 Box No: 355301**

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Above left, Japanese Doll character lunch bag; above left, Vacu Vin's clever PopSome dishes for sweets and nibbles

Pop it, bag it, enjoy it

Disney Lunch Bag from Lakeland

YOUNGSTERS will be cool for school with these fun and funky lunch bags.

The Japanese doll design is part of the new and exclusive Character Lunch Bags range from Lakeland. They can choose between the dolls or robots and there are also matching Character Drinks Bottles.

The lunch bags have an insulated storage compartment and wipe-clean inside. They cost £6.99 each. The 400ml drinks bottles cost £4.99 each.

Or for devotees of the magical kingdom, there is the new Disney Lunch Bag (Lakeland, £8.99) featuring a cute retro image of Mickey and Minnie Mouse. It's also insulated and wipe-clean. A co-ordinating 500ml Disney Bottle (£5.99) is also available.

Keep sweets or other nibbles fresh with Vacu Vin's PopSome storage bowls.

The brighly coloured PopSomes recently picked up a good design award for being practical and functional as well as fun.

The air and water-tight flexible lid can be pulled out with a pop to create an opening through which to serve the contents of the 500ml capacity bowls.

Then pop it back to keep the contents at their best.

If you want to see how they're used, check out the PopSome video on on YouTube.

Vacu Vin's PopSome dishes are available from Lakeland for £6.99. See www.lakeland.co.uk or for further stockists call 01299 250480.

Washing answer is blowing in the wind

WE'VE had weeks of ice, snow, rain and generally horrible, depressing weather but it gives you time to appreciate the simple things.

Like, for instance, pegging out washing and watching those billowing sheets on the washing line. I hate those long winter months when you have wet clothes draped over radiators or on indoor airers in the bathroom. Time to bring some fresh air back into your lives

And if you want something that won't sit in the garden unused for weeks on end, like a dismal reminder of finer weather to come, invest in a, what I term, as a whirly gig which you can bring inside when it is not in use.

Colourful

Simply close it up like an umbrella or as it is only in a spike in the ground you can actually put it away out of sight when it is not in use so it is not spoiling your view of the rear garden.

This one is the Brabantia Lift-0-Matic and is available in two sizes (40m or 50m) depending on the size of your garden or possibly of your family.

If you want to add a colourful touch get r a colourful peg basket and soft pegs which will cheer up your washing line and the soft pegs don't mark your clothes. The little carry holder has a hook so you can clip it on the washing line while you peg out the clothes, very handy!

Back inside and with spring in mind why not empty those cupboards, dump all the old out-of-date stuff, yes everyone has them, and give everything a good clean. It's also time to update your kitchen items and invest in some new items, such as a drainer. The old one has probably seen better days and this one combines a handy cutlery tray and tray underneath so you are not forever wiping away water marks off the stainless steel drainer.

If you fancy a bit of baking use this handy grinder to grate cheese, herbs or even carrots. It works for both left and right handed people and has a handy little case that can be used to store whatever you have just been grating.

And lastly, baking, no need to spend hours scraping out the crumbs that have stuck on your bakeware. Use one of the new soft silicone bakeware cases and the cakes simply pop out leaving no mess and not taking half the cake with it. All very simple ideas but guaranteed to make your life easier and that is enough to put a smile on your face no matter what the weather is like.

● *All items are available from Lakeland. For more details go to www.lakeland.co.uk or call 015394 88100.*

This rotary airer won't rust or come to grief in the wind and is supplied with a soil spear, so no concreting is necessary. And to make sure your pegs are always within reach clip on this handy peg caddy with 24 pegs

This brushed stainless steel drainer has integral cup hooks, a clear container for cutlery and tray to catch the drips

It may look like a hat but this is the very useful non stick silicone cake pan (part of a three for two deal) which just folds up to make it easy to store

This left or right handed rotary grater with grate and store container can be used on hard and soft cheeses, chocolate and even nuts

The distinctive Skyline can be seen from the beach at Minehead

Tried and tested formula works wonders, 75 years on

Holiday fun for families is still watchword at Butlin's

Gold accommodation at Butlin's Minehead

IT is reassuring to know that in an uncertain economic climate and in the days of the 'staycation' that tried and trusted family holidays can still be taken. One name has been synonymous with such breaks for three quarters of a century – Butlin's.

This year marks the 75th anniversary since Sir Billy opened up his first camp in Skegness. Just three sites remain nowadays, but that has enabled owners Bourne Leisure to splash the cash as it concentrates on making its trio of resorts as entertaining as possible for its guests.

Skegness, Minehead and Bognor Regis, with its Shoreline Hotel, make up the Butlin's resorts. It was at Minehead that my family and I took a weekend break. Going half board, the six of us stayed in a Gold apartment.

Exclusive to the Somerset site, these comprise four bedrooms – two doubles, one with an en suite and both with a TV – and two twin rooms. This, of course, led to arguments among the children over who was having which room, but put that to one side and it was a wonderful break.

It was half-term so the place was busy – and there was always so much to do.

Back in 1999, Butlin's introduced its distinctive Skyline Pavilion, which guarantees entertainment whatever the weather. We were lucky in that we had a dry weekend, but that would have mattered not with everything that can be done on site.

Make waves at Butlin's Splash Waterworld facility

From its eating establishments to its arcades and clubs and bars, families are never short of something to do. The older children can even be left to do their own thing to a certain extent, as activities such as the climbing wall and aerial adventure are supervised. There is also a cinema.

During our two-day stay we managed to make use of the Splash Waterworld pool, complete with four chutes, took a bike ride around the site and played crazy golf and bowling. We even strolled along the beach.

The children took in the fairground rides and the bumper boats, while there was a night in Centre Stage to see Brainiac Live.

Throughout the year there are themes at Butlin's, particularly aimed at families or younger children, Bob The Builder and Lazytown among them, while Butlin's has always been famous for its Redcoats. These provide the entertainment in both the Reds club and in the pavilion, along with the Skyline Gang.

The Premium Dining Experience was one that the children especially enjoyed. We dined in the Yacht Club, which offers a choice of breakfasts and evening meals. For particularly fussy eaters, it was good to see them getting their money's worth and going up for more. For holidaymakers going self-catering, there are a host of eating out options.

Prices at Butlin's Minehead start from £50pp per break based on four people sharing a Silver self-catering apartment, including accommodation, all live entertainment and the majority of facilities such as Splash Waterworld. To book at Butlins, visit **www.butlins.com** or call 0845 070 4730.

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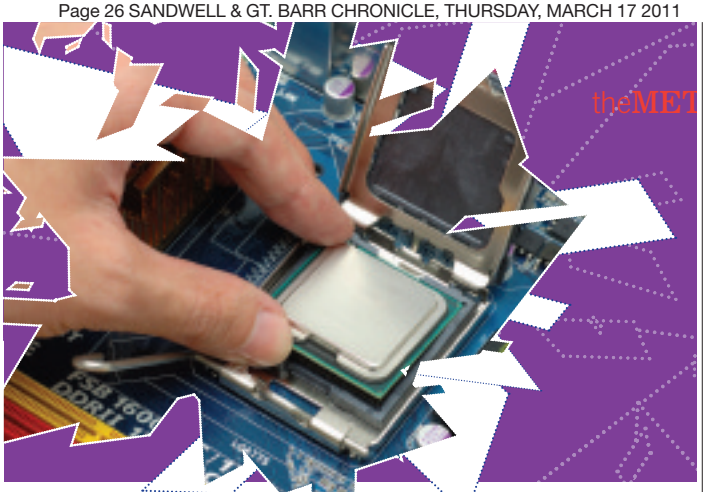

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Birmingham Metropolitan College
Tuesday 22nd March 2011 / 7.00pm
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Birmingham Metropolitan College runs a series of FREE careers events throughout the year. These evenings give students the opportunity to find out information about different pathways and qualifications needed to achieve thei career aims.

Speakers from various related professions give an insight int their career paths, and answer questions about their own work roles.

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GAMES

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Wii love to dance

Just Dance 2 (3, Ubisoft)
THE sequel to one of the Wii's most popular dance games stays top by keeping things simple – you simply mirror the moves of the silhouetted dancer on screen whilst holding the Wii-mote in the highlighted hand.

There is a super selection of music, ranging from The Pussycat Dolls to The Rolling Stones, and a new Duets mode allows two to perform complementary moves, or two pairs in four-player mode.

The Dance Battle mode pits you against your friends in a series of mini-games too.

Michael Jackson The Experience (12, Ubisoft)
Dance like the King of Pop to a selection of his original hits. Getting started was a bit fiddly because of the back and forth to the menu when checking out the dance instructor introductions but you don't need their advice. Go straight to the songs and it is simple to follow the Jackson stand-in as he takes you through those familiar signature moves, so I guess the 12 rating is due to the old Jacko groin grab move?

Soon you will be shuffling like a zombie through Thriller or stepping to the familiar beat of Billie Jean. The actual videos are not used but the dance routines keep true to the style of the originals as you try to score points by copying them as faithfully as possible.

Up to eight can play by passing the Wii-mote. Get that moonwalk right and you really could be starting something.

Dance Juniors (3, Ubisoft)
Similar to Just Dance but more for little kids with nursery rhymes and children's songs alongside favourite pop covers. **LB**

These games are available on Wii and for some other platforms too.

Dream of yesteryear

Dreamcast Collection (12, Sega)
AAAH, the Dreamcast.

Many fans of the best console of the 1990s will forever bear a grudge against Sony for the, then, inferior PlayStation's victory in the console wars, which persuaded Sega to give up hardware and become a content provider only.

Maybe that's why so many Dreamcast refugees became ardent Xbox supporters. So many former Dreamcast fans were delighted to hear that some of the obsolete system's games were being ported to Xbox 360, originally via subscription service Xbox Live Arcade.

Four of them are selected for this compilation, available for X360 and PC, but it's not an entirely happy package. Like watching a favourite kids' TV show decades later, the passage of time shows up the flaws. Also the fact that you have to reboot the disc to swap games is a chore.

Then there are problems with the transfer. Crazy Taxi is still great fun and has that 'Beetlejuice' style voiceover but misses the original soundtrack featuring such 90s punk favourites as The Offspring.

Ulala in action in Space Channel 5 part 2

Sega Bass Fishing, the arcade angling game, isn't quite as much fun without the fishing rod controller that came as an accessory for the Dreamcast.

Better served is Sonic Adventure, which is much as I remember it, a blue blur. Also good is Space Channel 5, the quirky Japanese dancing game where you have to remember combinations of button pushes. The return of the sassy Ulala and the catchy music is welcome. For some reason, probably the presence of 'Space' Michael Jackson, we get the part two version, when it would have been nice to start at the beginning with Ulala's spat with another off-planet TV presenter. But the alien dance-offs remain tremendously silly and addictive.

The trip down memory lane is certainly worth it and may even send you up the loft in search of that Dreamcast console you couldn't bring yourself to get rid off. **LB**

Greatest hits from the top of PopCap

PopCap Hits! (3, Pop Cap)
Pop Cap Hits Vol 2 (12, Pop Cap)
POPCAP are the leading brand in puzzle games across the platforms, from PC to mobile phone via Xbox Live Arcade. These two selections of their best sellers doe Xbox 360 now allows non-XBLA subscribers to get their hands on some of the best 2D time-wasters around.

PopCap Hits 1 features that mother of all addictive puzzle games Bejeweled, albeit in its slightly tweaked Bejeweled 2 form. The gem swapping game is a classic. The other games include the equally addictive Peggle, which blends Pinball with Breakout; Feeding Frenzy, 50 levels of a fishy battle for survival; and mildly diverting also-ran, Astro Pop, a block swapping exercise.

PopCap Hits Volume 2 (released on March 11) boasts Plants Vs Zombies, one of the most popular casual games around, probably second only to the all-conquering Angry Birds. Plants Vs Zombies, most recently a big hit on Xbox Live, is basically a tower defence game but with yourself and neighbour Crazy Dave protecting your property from the living dead via thoughtfully positioned foilage. It's a real brainteaser delivered with macabre humour. Also in the four game package are Feeding Frenzy 2, if the original 50 levels were not enough for seafood chompers; the classic Zuma in which a ball spitting frog has to fend off an implacable flow of coloured balls by matching three in a row; and frenetic shoot-em-up action in Heavy Weapon. It adds up to the better of the two PopCap compilations. **Leon Burakowski**

Reviews

Footloose, Hippodrome, Birmingham
FOOTLOOSE exploded on to the stage with all the energy and excitement an 80s dance musical should have. Based on the 1984 film, the production told the story of city boy Ren who moved to small town Bomont only to find that dancing was banned, and he wanted to bring it back.

The all singing, all dancing production, directed and choreographed by Olivier award-winner Karen Bruce, had everything from light-hearted humour to heart-ache and sadness which drew in the audience.

The show's big name, Matt Willis, from pop group Busted, as Chuck, fitted the role effortlessly, proving he is not just a pop star.

It featured classic 80s hits, including the title track Footloose, and a show-stopping performance of Let's Hear It For The Boys from Jodie Jacobs as Rusty.

The energy of the cast lasted from start to finish, and the show ended with a compilation of the biggest dance numbers which encouraged to whole audience to get on their feet.

Footloose The Dance Musical continues at the Hippodrome to Saturday. **Alex Wainwight**

Joe Longthorne, New Alex Theatre, Birmingham
WEAVING his magic with a sensational class act, Joe Longthorne had his adoring fans in raptures.

A huge cheer greeted him onto the stage as the audience stood up to show their love for him. Clearly moved by the welcome, it was warming to see the emotion on his face, all the more poignant after his fight against leukaemia.

The TV show Search for a Star put him in the spotlight and made him a household name, not only as an accomplished singer in his own right, but also a great singing impersonator and comedian.

Let Me Try Again was a perfect opening song that pulled at the heart strings and created the atmosphere for the rest of his performance.

His endless repertoire of voices includes hundreds of the world's top singers. Frank Sinatra, Shirley Bassey, Johnny Mathis, Neil Diamond, Barry Manilow and Tom Jones were just a few delivered with uncanny accuracy.

There were tears of laughter for his hilarious impressions of David Dickinson and his Dickinson's Real Deal colleagues. Finishing with a moving rendition of Wind Beneath My Wings, the entire audience were on their feet and many taking flowers and gifts to the front for him to receive. **Les Jowett**

The Wombats, HMV Institute, Birmingham
IT certainly did not backfire at the disco for The Wombats. The decision to start the night with a new song might not have been the best one, but following up this shaky start with Kill the Director soon got the crowds jumping.

The Liverpool lads gave an enthusiastic performance of old classics and songs from their long-awaited forthcoming album, This Modern Glitch, and it was clear how much their fans loved every moment as their waves of screams engulfed the room.

They ended the gig with a crowd-pleasing encore of their new single Anti-D and a performance of their first single Let's Dance To Joy Division, which had the whole venue singing along. **Alex Wainwight**

A scene from Footloose

Angelos Epithemiou & Friends, Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
THE friends didn't show, and that's just as well judging by the photos Angelos showed of them on a big screen, particularly the one who hasn't blinked for three years.

Anorak wearing, plastic bag carrying Angelos Neil Epithemiou is a social misfit character created by Dan Renton Skinner, a creation who has found fame as a panellist and, more recently, score keeper on Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer's spoof TV quiz show Shooting Stars.

You probably wouldn't choose to sit next to Angelos on a bus but put him on a stage and you have nearly two hours of bumbling, mumbling fun, not bad for an act who boasts "three jokes and a dance".

He has problems with any word with more than three syllables – including Wolverrrmton – and uses exclamations more suitable for a teenaged girl, OMG!

We did also get a glimpse of DJ Epithemiou, clad in Adidas and blasting out techno, though he took the pace down for his favourite song to play at funerals, If You Don't Know Me By Now.

The former burger van owner introduced us to his dog, Tinned Tomatoes, and expressed himself through the medium of dance. The anorak and 4ft-long tie were shed in favour of a silver Lycra leotard for Mud's Cat Crept In and again, with the addition of a bushy tail, for Sweet's Fox On The Run. He left us with his words of wisdom "don't muck about" which, thankfully, is a maxim he completely ignores.

Leon Burakowski

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the pulse

YOUR WEEK'S TV VIEWING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE STARTS HERE

WIN

Your chance to meet star Taylor

ONE of America's biggest new singing stars, Taylor Swift, is coming to the West Midlands next week – and The Chronicle is offering one lucky reader and a friend the chance to meet the four-time Grammy winner and see her in concert at the LG Arena.

The 21-year-old will be in concert on Tuesday (22) as one of only three concerts in the UK in support of her new Speak Now album.

Known for her incredible high energy shows, Taylor Swift will be performing hits from her three albums including the chart-topping Love Story, You Belong To Me, Fifteen and Mine, as part of her 15-month, 107-date world tour.

She is the top selling digital music artist in history, had the best selling album of the year in 2009 and regularly tops both pop and country music charts in America. All this in less than five years since the singer, songwriter and actress from Pennsylvania made her debut.

For your chance to meet the star and see her in concert at the LG on Tuesday evening, call us tomorrow (Friday March 18) on 01902 319571 between 10am and noon, and tell us the name of her latest album. The winner will be chosen that same day. We will require your name, address, email, mobile telephone number and date of birth. Anyone aged under 16 will have to be accompanied by an adult. Usual Chronicle rules apply and the editor's decision is final.

These boys nose they are Wanted

SINCE shooting straight to number one last year Britain's newest heart-throbs – The Wanted are set to cause a stir on their first UK tour.

Having spent the last 12 months touring Europe the boys are back doing something funny for money as they spearhead Comic Relief's official single.

The single, Gold Forever, marks a day in your life you will never forget and with their debut release All Time Low topping the chart, last August, the Brit nominees are set for many more memorable times. Their tour, which kicks off on March 29, will see them grace the Wolverhampton Civic stage on April 11.

After forming in an East London pub the edgy-pop band have started as they mean to go on, working hard but partying harder.

Their rough and tumble energy and down to earth nature sets them well apart from the clichéd, ballad-singing boy band.

Tom, the eldest of the group at 22, said: "It is an absolute honour to be fronting the Comic Relief single.

"When we first started out none of us expected us to be doing something this huge so soon.

"The fun we have definitely shows through in Gold Forever, we do something funny everyday and we love a good party. We hope everyone will back the single.

"We're not like your regular boy band, we don't want to conform to that stereotype and we want our fans to see the real us and enjoy our unique sound.

"We've never been to Wolverhampton before but we know we have a lot of supporters from the city and we are very excited to finally come and meet them."

With over nine million plays of their videos on YouTube and more than 400,000 fans on Facebook the tour promises to be the first of many from one of the year's biggest break-through acts.

IRISH rock trio The Script will be celebrating St Patrick's Day in Birmingham, at the LG Arena tonight (Thursday) for a sold out show as part of their major venue tour. A more traditional Irish music night will be held in the city's Town Hall where veteran folk group The Dubliners will be playing tonight. The present line-up of the group is Barney McKenna, John Sheahan, Seán Cannon, Eamonn Campbell and Patsy Watchorn.

MANCUNIAN band Elbow have won critical acclaim for their fifth studio album, Build A Rocket Boys!, released earlier this month. The Mercury Music Prize winners, for their classic album The Seldom Seen Kid, will be in concert at Birmingham's NIA on Tuesday, March 22, with support from Irish band Villagers.

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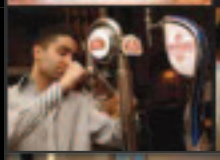

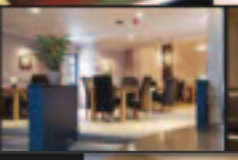

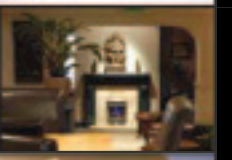

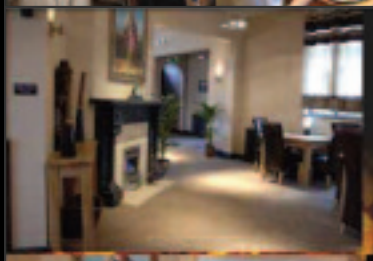

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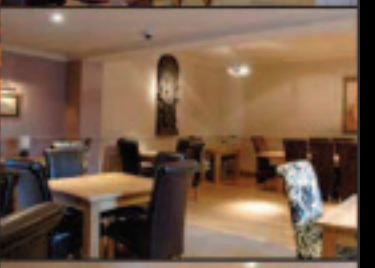

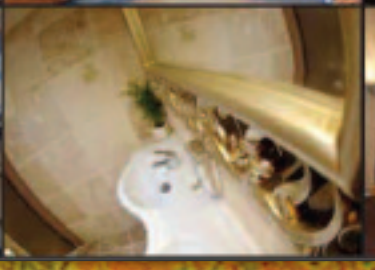

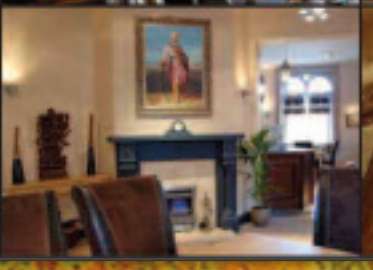

Golden celebration of life on the most famous street

BIRMINGHAM'S New Alexandra Theatre is taking inspiration from the longest-running TV soap with Corrie! from Monday to Saturday, an affectionate celebration of 50 years of Coronation Street which got its premiere in Salford a year ago.

Former Street star Ken Morley (who played supermarket boss Reg Holdsworth) is the special guest narrator for the show, which recalls celebrated scenes from the soap's half century and was written by one of the show's scriptwriters, Jonathan Harvey.

The cast of six will take on several roles each to play such familiar characters as Ena Sharples, Elsie Tanner, Hilda Ogden, Bet Lynch, Jack and Vera Duckworth, Ken and Deidre Barlow, murderous Richard Hillman and trouble-prone Steve MacDonald.

Roald Dahl fantasy for children **George's Marvellous Medicine** continues at the Alex to Saturday and then former Surpreme Mary Wilson will appear as part of a classic soul double bill with **The Chi-Lites** at the theatre this Sunday night.

Left: The Russian State Ballet in action – the world-famous company can be seen at Wolverhampton Grand; above, Jo Mousley as the unforgettable Hilda Ogden in Corrie! at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre; and below, a scene from The Blues Brothers The Smash Hit Musical, which is running at Birmingham Hippodrome for six days from Monday

Movie musicals reign supreme at Birmingham Hippodrome where **Footloose The Dance Musical** is followed by **The Blues Brothers** for a six day run from Monday. No sooner has former Busted singer Matt Willis stomped his last on the Hippodrome stage on Saturday in the celebration of 1980s music, than the clock turns back to the sounds of 1960s R&B in the show with the incredibly long title.... **The All New Original Tribute to The Blues Brothers The Smash Hit Musical**. The suited and pork pie-hatted duo and some soulful guest singers will be belting out the sounds of Chicago and Detroit to Saturday in the show inspired by the cult 1980 movie from director John Landis.

After Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company's production of Disney's **High School Musical** completes its run at Wolverhampton Grand on Saturday, the Lichfield Street theatre hosts **The Russian State Ballet** and Orchestra of Siberia. They perform The Nutcracker on Sunday (at 4pm), Romeo And Juliet on Monday evening and Swan Lake on Tuesday evening.

On Wednesday at the Grand songs from the shows, with particular attention to Les Miserables, will be performed by West End singers in **Beyond The Barricade** and on Thursday (24) Opera Della Luna perform Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta **HMS Pinafore**.

Sequel

Mind The Gap present an award-winning adaptation John Steinbeck's classic 'Great American Depression' drama **Of Mice And Men** at Wolverhampton's Arena twice today (Thu). Nobody's Perfect present the comedy **World Of Pain**, Rugeley writer Phil Preece's sequel to his House Of Pain, tomorrow (Fri). Birmingham Rep, now on the road whilst its theatre is partly rebuilt, comes to the Arena on Monday with Lucy Caldwell's powerful new play about a dying child, **Notes To Future Self**. The play, the last directed for the Rep by outgoing artistic director Rachel Kavanaugh, won critical acclaim during its recent run in Birmingham.

Crescent Theatre presents Tennessee Williams' US Deep South drama **Cat On A Hot Tin Roof** at the theatre on Sheepcote Street in Birmingham from Saturday to March 26.

Orchestra

St Patrick's Day is marked by veteran Irish music greats **The Dubliners** tonight (Thu) at Birmingham Town Hall. Other concert highlights in the second city include English folk from **Kate Rusby** (Town Hall, Friday); Bollywood legend **Asha Bhosle** with sitar virtuoso Shujaat Khan (Symphony Hall, Friday); **The Australian Pink Floyd Show** (Symphony Hall, Monday); theatrical 10-piece performance orchestra **The Irrepressibles** (Town Hall, Tuesday); and jazz singer **Clare Teal** performs songs from the Great British Songbook with the BBC Big Band on Friday, March 15, at the Town Hall.

Get ready for a long night at Dudley Concert Hall when veteran comedian **Ken Dodd** holds court on Saturday night, or head over to Stourbridge Town Hall for a Command Performance by spoof variety veteran **Count Arthur Strong**.

Pole-dancing girls, night out comedy **The Naked Truth** features Emmerdale's Claire King, former West End Hairspray star Leanne Jones, Maureen Nolan and ex-Liberty X singer Michelle Heaton, and is at Stoke's Regent Theatre from Wednesday to the following Saturday. It then visits the Alex on April 26 and 27.

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BBC1

[illegible] Breakfast. [illegible] Saturday Kitchen Live. [illegible] Raymond Blanc's Kitchen Secrets. (R) [illegible] BBC News; Regional News; Weather. [illegible] Football Focus. [illegible] A Question of Sport. (R) [illegible] Outtake TV. (R) [illegible] Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v Italy (Kick-off 2.30pm). [illegible] Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v England (Kick-off 5.00pm). John Inverdale presents coverage of this evening's decisive match at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin.

[illegible] **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**

[illegible] **Live Six Nations Rugby Union.** France v Wales (Kick-off 7.45pm). Gabby Logan presents coverage of the final match of this year's championship, staged at the Stade de France in Paris.

[illegible] **The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws.** Jenni Falconer presents the all-important Lotto, Thunderball and Lotto Plus 5 draws.

[illegible] **BBC News; Weather.**

[illegible] **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of today's Premier League clashes, including Manchester United v Bolton Wanderers and Tottenham Hotspur v West Ham United; National Lottery Update.

[illegible] **The Football League Show.** Highlights and all the goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Millwall v Cardiff City at the New Den; Weatherview

[illegible] BBC News.

BBC2

[illegible] CBeebies. [illegible] CBBC. [illegible] Diagnosis Murder. (R) [illegible] Film: The Man from Laramie. (1955) Western, starring James Stewart. [illegible] Into the West. (R) [illegible] Churches: How to Read Them. (R) [illegible] Final Score. [illegible] Priceless Antiques Roadshow. [illegible] Escape to the Country. (R)

[illegible] **Flog It!** Making a profit at auction. (R)

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[illegible] **Dad's Army.** The platoon camps on a firing range. (R)

[illegible] **The Art of Tommy Cooper.** The life and work of the comedian. (R)

[illegible] **The Story of Variety with Michael Grade.** Part one of two. The popularity of variety shows in the post-war years.

[illegible] **Christopher and His Kind.** Period drama, starring Matt Smith and Toby Jones. Novelist Christopher Isherwood sets out on a journey of self-discovery in 1930s Berlin after a failed love affair.

[illegible] **The Tudors.** Henry's pleasure at the conclusion of the siege of Boulogne proves short-lived.

[illegible] **ICC Cricket World Cup Highlights.** Bangladesh v South Africa and Australia v Pakistan.

[illegible] Film: Q&A. (1990) Police thriller, starring Nick Nolte.

ITV1

[illegible] CITV: Mini CITV. [illegible] CITV. [illegible] Coronation Street. [illegible] This Morning Saturday. [illegible] Monk. [illegible] ITV News; Weather. [illegible] You've Been Framed! (R) [illegible] Film: Doc Hollywood. (1991) Comedy, starring Michael J Fox. [illegible] Film: Evan Almighty. (2007) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Carell. [illegible] Regional Programmes.

[illegible] **ITV News; Weather.**

[illegible] **You've Been Framed!** Featuring a skier caught on a chair lift.

[illegible] **Harry Hill's TV Burp.** Comic review of the week's small-screen highlights.

[illegible] **Ant & Dec's Push the Button.** Two families compete for a substantial cash prize.

[illegible] **Take Me Out.** A triathlete, a property developer, a sales executive and an electrician take part, and host Paddy McGuinness sees whether last week's couples clicked. Last in the series.

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[illegible] **FILM Casino Royale.** (2006) Thriller, starring Daniel Craig.

[illegible] **ITV News; Weather.**

[illegible] **FILM Casino Royale.** (2006) Concluded.

[illegible] The Zone; ITV News Headlines. [illegible] Swingtown. (R) [illegible] ITV Nightscreen. [illegible] ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

[illegible] Sell Me. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] The Track and Field Show. (R) [illegible] The Grid. [illegible] The Morning Line. [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: 4Music Favourites: Nicole Scherzinger. [illegible] T4: The Beckhams: Real Stories. (R) [illegible] T4: Glee. [illegible] T4: Great British Hairdresser. [illegible] T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) [illegible] T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) [illegible] Channel 4 Racing. [illegible] The Secret Supper Club. [illegible] Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) [illegible] Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) [illegible] Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) [illegible] Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

[illegible] **The Political Slot.** Labour's plans to stand up for young people's rights.

[illegible] **Channel 4 News.**

[illegible] **[illegible]**

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[illegible] **River Cottage Every Day.** Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall champions the delights of fruit. (R)

[illegible] **Seven Ages of Britain.** (R)

[illegible] **FILM The Happening.** (2008) Premiere. Horror, starring Mark Wahlberg.

[illegible] **Stand Up for the Week.**

[illegible] **FILM Kalifornia.** (1993) Thriller, starring Brad Pitt.

[illegible] Film: Melinda and Melinda. (2004) Comedy drama, starring Radha Mitchell. [illegible] Privileged. (R) [illegible] Reaper. (R) [illegible] Sell Me. (R)

Channel 5

[illegible] Milkshake! [illegible] The Family Recipe. (R) [illegible] UEFA Europa League Highlights. [illegible] The Gadget Show. (R) [illegible] Ice Road Truckers. (R) [illegible] Film: Jane Doe: How to Fire Your Boss. (2007) Murder mystery, starring Lea Thompson. [illegible] Film: Mona Lisa Smile. (2003) Drama, starring Julia Roberts. [illegible] Film: While You Were Sleeping. (1995) Romantic comedy, starring Sandra Bullock and Bill Pullman.

[illegible] **5 News Weekend.**

[illegible] **NCIS.** McGee is shocked to discover that a double murder appears to have been inspired by his latest novel – and realises one of his colleagues could become the killer's third target. (R)

[illegible] **CSI: Grissom's [illegible]** The battered corpse of a woman is found in the desert, Nick joins the search for a missing person, and Warrick and Catherine uncover a cache of stolen art. (R)

[illegible] **CSI: NY.** Evidence from a murder scene leads to a man from Flack's past, who reluctantly agreed to join the witness protection programme to testify against drug dealers.

[illegible] **CSI: Miami.** Three arms smugglers are killed by a new hi-tech gun. (R)

[illegible] **CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** (R)

[illegible] SuperCasino. [illegible] Your Sport. (R) [illegible] How Not to Decorate. (R) [illegible] Meals in Moments. (R) [illegible] Hana's Helpline. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake Show. (R) [illegible] Thomas & Friends. (R) [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2
3.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp 4.00 American Idol 7.00 Film: The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997) 9.20 Film: Mickey Blue Eyes (1999) 11.05 Celebrity Juice

ITV3
2.35 Jane Eyre 4.50 Midsomer Murders 11.05 Murder in Suburbia

ITV4
2.50 Film: Man Without a Star (1955) 4.30 Film: Mystery Men (1999) Comedy, starring Ben Stiller, William H Macy and Hank Azaria. Including FYI Daily 7.00 The Professionals 8.00 Minder 9.00 Freddie Flintoff Versus the World 10.00 Ultimate Force 11.05 Film: Cyborg (1989)

BBC THREE
7.00 Don't Tell the Bride – The Vegas Wedding 8.00 Frankenstein's Wedding: Live in Leeds 9.20 24 Hour Panel People

BBC FOUR
7.00 Nature's Great Events 8.00 Agony & Ecstasy: A Year with English National Ballet 9.00 The Killing 11.00 Christopher Isherwood: A Born Foreigner 11.50 Twenty Twelve

E4
1.20 Hollyoaks 4.00 Make It or Break It 4.55 Friends 6.25 Glee 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.25 Friends 10.00 Film: The 51st State (2001) An American drug dealer heads for Liverpool to make one last sale, with an assassin working for his old boss in hot pursuit. Action comedy, with Samuel L Jackson and Robert Carlyle. 11.50 The Cleveland Show

FILM4
3.15 Carry On Cabby (1963) 5.05 Say Anything (1989) 7.05 Son of the Mask (2004) 8.50 The Eagle Special 9.00 In Bruges (2008) Two hitmen have a series of surreal misadventures while lying low in Belgium after a job goes tragically wrong. Black comedy, starring Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson. 11.05 Wrong Turn (2003)

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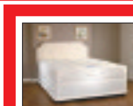
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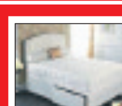
Balmoral Double Divan £399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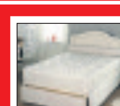
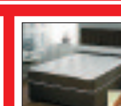

Ruby Double Divan £199

Diana Double Divan £149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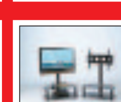
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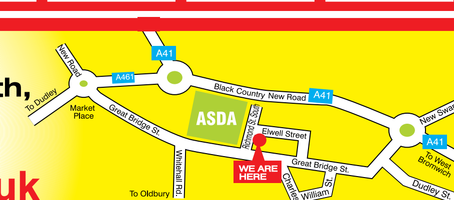

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BBC1

[illegible] Breakfast. [illegible] Match of the Day. (R) [illegible] The Andrew Marr Show. [illegible] The Big Questions. [illegible] Country Tracks. [illegible] The Politics Show. [illegible] EastEnders. [illegible] Weakest Link. [illegible] Bargain Hunt. [illegible] Escape to the Country. (R) [illegible] Lifeline. [illegible] Songs of Praise. [illegible] BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

[illegible] **Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers.** Recipes for Thai spiced aubergines, chilli feta and a quick korma. (R)
[illegible] **The Bed That Guy Built.** Guy Martin weaves his own bedsheets. (R)
[illegible] **Countryfile.** Julia Bradbury and Jules Hudson visit the Lake Vyrnwy Estate in Powys.
[illegible] **Antiques Roadshow.** More valuations from Saltaire, West Yorkshire.
[illegible] **Waking the Dead.** Part one of two. A missing woman is found brutally murdered.
[illegible] **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
[illegible] **Comic Relief Highlights 2011.** Memorable moments from this year's fundraising event.
[illegible] **Stand Up for Comic Relief.** Three broadcasters learn to be stand-up comedians.
[illegible] **Regional Programme.**
[illegible] **[illegible] The Super League Show.** Action from the latest Super League matches.

[illegible] Reggie Perrin. (R) [illegible] Lead Balloon. (R) Weatherview. [illegible] Sign Zone: Faulks on Fiction. (R) [illegible] Holby City. (R) [illegible] Romancing the Stone: The Golden Ages of British Sculpture. (R) [illegible] BBC News.

BBC2

[illegible] CBeebies. [illegible] CBBC. [illegible] Something for the Weekend. With Paul Whitehouse, Charlie Higson and Chris O'Dowd. [illegible] Film 2011 with Claudia Winkleman. (R) [illegible] Diagnosis: Murder. (R) [illegible] Film: The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp. (1943) [illegible] Film: The Red Shoes. (1948) [illegible] The Spice Trail. (R)

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[illegible] **Live MotoGP.** Matt Roberts presents coverage of the Qatar Grand Prix at the Losail International Circuit in Doha, where the opening race of the season takes place.
[illegible] **Top Gear.** Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May test-drive cars in Romania, as they search for a mountain highway built by the country's former dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. (R)
[illegible] **Wonders of the Universe.** How gravity influences events across the universe.
[illegible] **Match of the Day 2.** Including highlights Chelsea v Manchester City.
[illegible] **ICC Cricket World Cup Highlights.** Kenya v Zimbabwe and India v West Indies.

[illegible] MotoGP. (R) [illegible] Film: The Blue Tower. (2008) [illegible] BBC News. [illegible] The Super League Show. [illegible] Close.

ITV1

[illegible] CITV: Mini CITV. [illegible] CITV. [illegible] May the Best House Win. (R) [illegible] House Gift. (R) [illegible] This Morning: Sunday. [illegible] Dinner Date. (R) [illegible] ITV News; Weather. [illegible] Film: Columbo: By Dawn's Early Light. (1974) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Patrick McGoohan. [illegible] Midsomer Murders. (R) [illegible] Regional Programmes. [illegible] ITV News; Weather.

[illegible] **Harry Hill's TV Burp.** Comic review of the week's small-screen highlights. (R)
[illegible] **Dancing on Ice.** Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby present the semi-final, as the four remaining celebrities battle it out for a much-coveted place in next week's final. The results can be seen at 8.30pm.
[illegible] **Duran Duran: One Night Only.** The band perform their biggest hits and new songs for a studio audience.
[illegible] **Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off.** Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby announce the finalists.
[illegible] **ITV News; Weather.**
[illegible] **Lark's Dream** (R)
[illegible] **Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union**

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[illegible] The Zone; ITV News Headlines. [illegible] Film: Highlander. (1986) Fantasy with Christopher Lambert. [illegible] ITV Nightscreen. [illegible] ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

[illegible] The Treacle People. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] FIS Freestyle World Ski Championships. [illegible] That Paralympic Show. (R) [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Hollyoaks. [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Glee. (R) [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] Four in a Bed. (R) [illegible] Four in a Bed. (R) [illegible] Four in a Bed. (R) [illegible] Four in a Bed. (R) [illegible] Four in a Bed. (R) [illegible] Deal or No Deal. Game show, with Noel Edmonds. [illegible] Time Team. A Leicestershire stately home with a colourful past.

[illegible] **Channel 4 News.**
[illegible] **[illegible]** The role of Islamic culture in British society.
[illegible] **Come Dine with Me.** The dinner party challenge heads to Nuneaton.

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[illegible] **Civilisation: Is the West History?** The contrasting fortunes of North and South America.
[illegible] **Country House Rescue.** An 18th-century Georgian mansion in south-west Scotland.
[illegible] **FILM: Shooter.** (2007) Action thriller, starring Mark Wahlberg.

[illegible] The NME Awards 2011 (R) [illegible] The Strangest Hotel in Britain. (R) [illegible] The Family. (R) [illegible] Without a Trace. (R) [illegible] Reaper. (R) [illegible] Wogan's Perfect Recall. [illegible] Yo Gabba Gabba!

Channel 5

[illegible] Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R) [illegible] Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) [illegible] Fireman Sam. (R) [illegible] Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) [illegible] The Beeps. (R) [illegible] Mio Mao. (R) [illegible] Chiro. (R) [illegible] Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) [illegible] Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) [illegible] Make Way for Noddy. (R) [illegible] Igam Ogam. (R) [illegible] Little Princess. (R) [illegible] Hana's Helpline. (R) [illegible] The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) [illegible] Family. (R) [illegible] Rupert Bear. (R) [illegible] Olivia. (R) [illegible] The Mr Men Show. (R) [illegible] Gerald McBoing Boing. (R) [illegible] Camilla Kerslake Live. [illegible] Starlight: For the Children. (R) [illegible] Starstruck: The Inside Story. (R) [illegible] Cowboy Builders. (R) [illegible] Cowboy Builders. (R) [illegible] Film: Blood Alley. (1955) Action adventure, starring John Wayne. [illegible] 5 News Weekend. [illegible] Film: Hellfighters. (1968) Adventure, starring John Wayne.

[illegible] **FILM: Stealth.** (2005) Three US Navy fighter pilots have to prevent a malfunctioning computer-controlled jet from starting a war. Action adventure, starring Jamie Foxx and Josh Lucas.
[illegible] **FILM: Death Race.** (2008) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller, starring Jason Statham.
[illegible] **FILM: Knock Off.** (1998) Action thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme.

[illegible] SuperCasino. [illegible] Your Sport. (R) [illegible] How Not to Decorate. (R) [illegible] Medic in Moments. (R) [illegible] Hana's Helpline. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake! Show. [illegible] Thomas & Friends. [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2
4.35 Take Me Out 6.10 Film: Jurassic Park III (2001) 8.00 OMG! With Peaches Geldof 9.00 The Only Way Is Essex: Totally Vajazzled 9.55 The Only Way Is Essex Music Video 10.00 The Only Way Is Essex 10.35 Secret Diary of a Call Girl 11.20 Film: The Bourne Ultimatum (2007)

ITV3
3.50 Film: The Three Musketeers (1973) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Michael York 6.00 Midsomer Murders

ITV4
3.15 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1930) 6.00 Film: The 'Burbs (1989) 8.00 Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union 9.00 Film: Jaws 3 (1983) 11.00 Freddie Flintoff Versus the World

BBC THREE
7.00 The World's Strictest Parents 8.00 Junior Doctors: Your Life in Their Hands 9.00 Becoming Human 9.50 EastEnders: Whitney's Story 10.00 Family Guy 10.25 American Dad 11.00 Becoming Human

BBC FOUR
7.00 The Story of Science – Power, Proof and Passion 8.00 The End of the World? A Horizon Guide to Armageddon 9.00 Electric Dreams 10.00 Film: Sin Nombre (2009) Premiere. A Honduran girl makes a dangerous journey to the US, while a Mexican teenager questions his loyalty to a street gang. Drama, starring Paulina Gaitan and Edgar Flores. 11.30 Christy Moore Live: Come All You Dreamers

E4
3.55 Film: Taxi (2004) Comedy thriller remake, starring Queen Latifah 5.55 Friends 7.30 90210 8.25 Friends 10.00 Rude Tube: Viral Ads 11.05 My Funniest Year: 2000

FILM4
2.45 The Cassandra Crossing (1976) 5.20 Doctor in Distress (1963) 7.20 Hot Shots! (1991) 9.00 What Happens in Vegas (2008) 10.50 Tigerland (2000)

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the pulse

Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Britain's Empty Homes. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 The Big Squeeze: Panorama. 9.00 Waking the Dead. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Mrs Brown's Boys. 11.05 Late Kick Off. 11.35 Film: A Bronx Tale. (1993); Weatherview. 1.30 Sign Zone: Silk. (R) 2.30 Romancing the Stone: The Golden Ages of British Sculpture. (R) 3.30 Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) 4.00 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.45 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.30 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 3.00 Flog It! 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. 7.00 Nicolas Sarkozy: President Bling Bling? 8.00 University Challenge. 8.30 Raymond Blanc's Kitchen Secrets. 9.00 The Secret War on Terror. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Film: Cabaret. (1972) 1.20 An Island Parish. (R) 1.50 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.50 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Lakes. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Law & Order: UK. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Real Crime with Mark Austin: Yvonne Fletcher – Justice Betrayed. (R) 11.35 River Monsters. (R) 12.35 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 UEFA Champions League Weekly. 3.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 3.55 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.10 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. (R) 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.05 Supernanny USA. 10.00 The Good Wife. (R) 10.55 Relocation, Relocation. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 The TV Book Club. 12.30 Film: Arizona Raiders. (1965) 2.10 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 3.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Coach Trip. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Dispatches: Train Journeys from Hell. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 Heston's Chocolate Factory Feast. (R) 11.05 The Event. 12.05 Music on 4: Russian Standard Originals Presents. (R) 12.35 Music on 4: 4Play: Diagram of the Heart. 12.50 European Poker Tour. 1.45 Rome Wasn't Built in a Day. (R) 2.35 Royal Deaths and Diseases. (R) 3.30 Coilex. (R) 4.25 The Bible: A History. (R) 5.20 Chrono-Perambulator. (R) 5.35 Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 3.15 Film: Ike: Countdown to D-Day. (2004) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Tom Selleck. 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Old TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It?; 5 News Update. 8.00 The Gadget Show; 5 News at 8. 9.00 Film: Romeo Must Die. (2000) Martial arts thriller, starring Jet Li. 11.20 Film: Death Race. (2008) Sci-fi thriller, starring Jason Statham. 1.20 SuperCasino. 4.05 The FBI Files. (R) 4.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Britain's Empty Homes. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 Silk. Martha refuses to accept an easy victory during a prosecution case. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Neighbourhood Watched. 11.20 Jobless; (R) Weatherview. 12.25 Sign Zone: See Hear. (R) 12.55 Human Planet. (R) 1.55 When Teenage Meets Old Age. (R) 2.55 New Novelists: 12 of the Best from the Culture Show. (R) 3.55 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.45 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.30 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 3.00 Flog It! 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. 7.00 Wonders of the Universe. (R) 8.00 The Hairy Bikers: Mums Know Best. 9.00 Bible's Buried Secrets. Theories that suggest God had a female counterpart or wife. 10.00 Have I Got Old News for You. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Storyville – American Idol: Reagan. 1.00 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.50 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Grimefighters. 8.00 Lion Country. 9.00 Caroline Quentin: A Passage Through India. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Thirteen. (2003) Drama, starring Holly Hunter. 12.25 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.25 Crossing Jordan. 3.15 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R) 6.25 The Hoobs. (R) 6.50 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. (R) 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.05 Supernanny USA. 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Film: Operation Amsterdam. (1958) Second World War adventure, starring Peter Finch. 2.05 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 3.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Coach Trip. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Superdze vs Superskinny Kids. 9.00 Katie: My Beautiful Friends. New series. Katie Piper sets out to help other people living with disfigurements. 10.00 Lily Allen: From Riches to Rags. 11.05 The Big C. 11.35 School of Comedy. 12.15 UK & Ireland Poker Tour. 1.15 FIS Freestyle World Ski Championships. (R) 1.45 The Grid. (R) 2.10 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.40 Sailing. (R) 3.05 Ironman Triathlon. (R) 4.00 Triathlon: ITU World Championship Series Magazine. (R) 4.55 Full Metal Challenge. (R) 5.55 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 3.15 Film: Heart of a Stranger. (2002) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Old TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Extraordinary Dogs; 5 News Update. 8.00 Tutankhamun: The Mystery Revealed. (R) 5 News at 8. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 10.00 CSI: Miami. (R) 10.55 CSI: NY. (R) 11.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 12.55 SuperCasino. 4.05 The FBI Files. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Britain's Empty Homes. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 The Boat That Guy Built; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Waterloo Road. 9.00 MasterChef. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Budget Statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. 10.40 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.50 Would I Lie to You? (R) 11.20 Film: Shattered Glass. (2003); National Lottery Update. 12.50 Weatherview. 12.55 Sign Zone: Country Tracks. (R) 1.50 Toughest Place to Be a Midwife. (R) 2.50 Baking Made Easy. (R) 3.20 The Boat That Guy Built. (R) 3.50 Romancing the Stone: The Golden Ages of British Sculpture. (R) 4.50 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 The Budget 2011: George Osborne's Budget statement. 3.30 Flog It! Travels Around Britain: Rural Crafts. (R) 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. 7.00 Escape to the Country. (R) 8.00 Great British Food Revival. 9.00 The Truth About Lions. 10.00 Mock the Week Again. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Budget Statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. 11.25 ICC Cricket World Cup Highlights. 12.25 News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.20 The Chancellor's Budget – An ITV News Special. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.50 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather; Budget Statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Unforgettable Sid James. (R) 8.00 Midsomer Murders. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Mercury Rising. (1998) 12.40 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.45 Film: Perfect Strangers. (2004) 4.15 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.15 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. (R) 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.05 Supernanny USA. 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 Country House Rescue. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Film: Kipps. (1941) 2.05 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 3.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Coach Trip. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Superdze vs Superskinny Kids. 9.00 Jamie's Dream School. 10.00 The Model Agency. 11.05 Lily Allen: From Riches to Rags. (R) 12.10 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Sessions. (R) 12.30 Music on 4: 4Play: Jamie Woon. 12.45 Music on 4: 4Play: Emin. 1.00 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show Spotlight. 1.15 Music on 4: 4Play: Imelda May. (R) 1.30 The Frontier House. (R) 2.25 The Battle of Hood and Bismarck. (R) 3.55 Film: Belle Starr. (1941) 5.25 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 3.15 Film: Flood: A River's Rampage. (1997) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Old TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Starlight: For the Children; 5 News Update. 8.00 Emergency Bikers. (R) 5 News at 8. 9.00 NCIS. 10.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. (R) 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. (R) 11.55 Poker. 12.55 SuperCasino. 4.05 The FBI Files. (R) 4.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Britain's Empty Homes. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 DIY SOS: The Big Build – Haydock. (R) 9.00 My Big Fat Fake Wedding: Panorama. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Budget Response. 10.40 Question Time. 11.40 This Week; Holiday Weatherview. 12.30 Sign Zone: The Big Squeeze: Panorama. (R) 1.00 Countryfile. (R) 2.00 Antiques Roadshow. (R) 3.00 The Paedophile Hunters. (R) 4.00 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 See Hear. 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.45 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.30 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 3.00 Flog It! 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. 7.00 Wartime Farm Wars. 8.00 A Farmer's Life for Me. 9.00 The British at Work. 10.00 The Grumpy Guide to Work. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Budget Response. (R) 11.25 ICC Cricket World Cup Highlights. 12.25 BBC News. 4.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.50 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather; Budget Response. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Too Old to Be a Mum?: Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Monroe. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Gone in 60 Seconds. (2000) Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage. 12.45 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.45 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 3.40 Too Old to Be a Mum?: Tonight. (R) 4.05 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.10 The Treacle People. (R) 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.10 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. (R) 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.10 Supernanny USA. 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 The Restoration Man. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 Film: Good Morning, Miss Dove. (1955) Drama, starring Jennifer Jones. 2.05 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 3.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Coach Trip. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Superdze vs Superskinny Kids. 9.00 Love Thy Neighbour. 10.00 10 O'Clock Live. 11.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.35 The Ricky Gervais Show. 12.10 Music on 4: CTRL.MX. 12.40 Music on 4: 4Play: Skepta. (R) 12.55 Music on 4: On Track. (R) 1.20 The People's Supermarket. (R) 2.15 Dispatches: Train Journeys from Hell. (R) 3.10 Without a Trace. (R) 3.55 Hill Street Blues. (R) 4.45 Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R) 5.10 Countdown. (R) 5.55 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 Rough Guide to Adventures. (R) 3.25 Film: Claire. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Old TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It?; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 The Builders. Demolition experts the Gustafson family. 5 News at 8. 9.00 Film: High Plains Drifter. (1972) Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood. 11.15 CCTV Cities. Police efforts to combat football violence. (R) 12.15 SuperCasino. 4.05 The FBI Files. (R) 4.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Britain's Empty Homes. 11.30 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Escape to the Country. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Weakest Link. (R) 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Rip Off Britain; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Oi. (R) 9.00 New Tricks. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 24 Hour Panel People. 11.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.50 Film: Scary Movie 3. (2003) Spoof horror movie, starring Anna Faris; Weatherview. 1.10 Sign Zone: Horizon: Predators in your Backyard. (R) 2.10 Hidden Treasures of African Art. (R) 3.10 BBC News. 5.00 Formula 1: Australian Grand Prix Qualifying. The battle for pole position in the opening round of the season.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Meerkat Manor. (R) 12.00 Daily Politics. 12.30 GMT with George Alagiah. 1.00 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 1.45 To Buy or Not to Buy. 2.30 Restoration Roadshow. (R) 3.00 Flog It! 3.45 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 4.30 Pointless. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. 7.00 Britain by Bike. (R) 7.30 An Island Parish. 8.00 Mastermind. 8.30 Gardeners' World. 9.00 This is Britain. 10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated. 10.30 Newsnight. 11.00 The Review Show; Weather. 11.50 ICC Cricket World Cup Highlights. 12.50 Film: The Hidden Blade. (2004) Premiere. Romantic drama, starring Masatoshi Nagase. 3.00 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 The Alan Titchmarsh Show. 3.50 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Children's Hospital. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Benidorm. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Cube. (R) 11.35 Take Me Out. (R) 1.05 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.05 In Plain Sight. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.20 The Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R) 7.10 Freshly Squeezed. 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Frasier. (R) 8.35 Friends. (R) 9.10 Supernanny USA. 10.00 Brothers & Sisters. 10.55 Gok's Fashion Fix. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 River Cottage Bites. 12.15 Film: Gunman's Walk. (1958) Western, starring Van Heflin. 2.05 Cookery School. 3.10 Countdown. 3.55 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Coach Trip. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.25 4thought.tv. 7.30 Unreported World. 8.00 Superdze vs Superskinny Kids. 9.00 Embarrassing Bodies. 10.00 Friday Night Dinner. 10.35 Fade Tube: Total Stunts. (R) 11.40 10 O'Clock Live. (R) 12.40 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show Introduces Mike Posner. (R) 12.55 Music on 4: CTRL.MX. (R) 1.20 Music on 4: 4Play: Kasabian. 1.35 My Name Is Earl. (R) 2.30 Modern Toss. (R) 2.55 Film: My Neighbour Totoro. (1988) Animated fantasy, with the voice of Noriko Hidaka. 4.30 Reaper. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.05 Cowboy Builders. (R) 12.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.20 House. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 The Vanessa Show. 3.05 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 3.20 Film: Love Is a Four Letter Word. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.25 Old TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Vets in Action. (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Ice Road Truckers; 5 News at 8. 9.00 The Mentalist. 10.00 Law & Order. 10.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 Cops in Crisis. (R) 12.15 SuperCasino. 3.55 Motorsport Mundial. 4.20 The FBI Files. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

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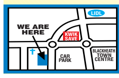

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SATURDAY AND SUNDAY	1250	1530	1805	2045
TURTLE'S TALE 3D (U) FLS				
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY				11.00
BATTLE LOS ANGELES (12A) FLS				
ALL WEEK		1540	1810	2040
GNOMEO AND JULIET 3D (U)				
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY				1345
RANGO (PG) FLS				
FRIDAY, MONDAY TO THURSDAY				1610
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY			1350	1610

HALL PASS (15) FLS		
ALL WEEK	1830	2050
UNKNOWN (12A) FLS		
ALL WEEK	1530	2020
PAUL (15)		
FRIDAY, MONDAY TO THURSDAY		1800
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY	1315	1800
KIDS CLUB - SATURDAY AND SUNDAY		
YOGI BEAR (U)		1150
TANGLED (PG)		1140
BIG MOMMAS (PG)	1105	

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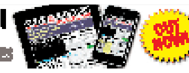
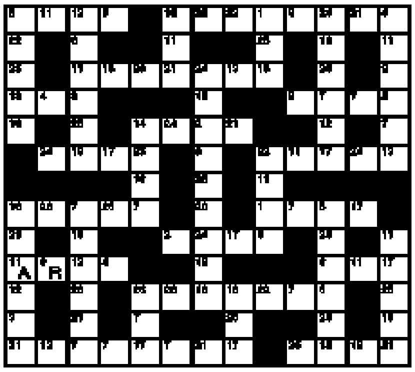


Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6 R	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11 A	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	S	U	D	V	Q	X	E	J	P	M	L	W
14	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**
H	A	Y	R	N	G	K	O	F	B	T	I	C

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QUICK CROSSWORDS
CODEWORD SUDOKU
WORD PUZZLER
WORD SEARCH
NUMBER CRUNCH
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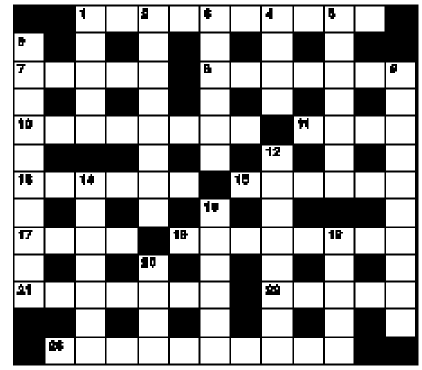
Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Excellent start at school? (5,5)
7. They cause suffering – observe great care (5)
8. It has no meaning (7)
10. People may have to put up with her (8)
11. An element of jazz in classical music (4)
13. It's not so hot in this rug (6)
15. Hut for a musical sailor (6)
17. Agrees, but says nothing (4)
18. It's not slight having more surplus (4,4)
21. Takes good steps not to have to walk in the streets (7)
22. Girl from the heath I care about? (5)
23. If your words are this, you won't want to eat them! (2,3,5)

Down

1. In life ignorance may make one pretend (5)
2. Found the answer again, being determined (8)
3. A long speech from one in business (6)
4. Abandoned part (4)
5. A Parliamentary team? (7)
6. They presumably hope not to miss the post (10)
9. A chance one is fortunate to get (5,5)
12. Talks to many head tradesmen (8)
14. Scrap an aged gold club (3,4)
16. Afternoon service? (3,3)
19. Without it one is utterly incompetent! (5)
20. A thought the bride apparently conceals (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Aura (10)
7. Engine (5)
8. Unfold (7)
10. Addressed (8)
11. Just (4)
13. Tumult (6)
15. Vaporise (6)
17. Supporter (4)
18. Effigy of Christ on the cross (8)
21. Ingredient (7)
22. Guide (5)
23. Excessively fussy (10)

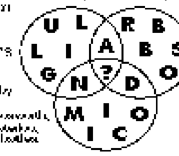
Down

1. Loft (5)
2. Crack shot (8)
3. Abrupt (6)
4. Own (4)
5. Trusting (7)
6. Spotless (10)
9. Doubt (10)
12. Follower (8)
14. Ease (7)
16. Fault finder (6)
19. Silliness (5)
20. Thin (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: [illegible]
QUICK - Across: [illegible]

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is [illegible]

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

4	6	3	2				9	
	2	1		9			7	
7					6			2
1	8		3			6		
				6				
		2					6	3
2	3		7					5
				5		2	9	
	9				3	8	6	1

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS: [illegible]

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Dutch Towns and Waterways
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This cruise around the IJsselmeer and its tributaries will reveal a variety of attractions that are all within easy reach of the berthing ports. The quaint harbours and fishing villages are attractions in themselves with their rows of brightly painted gabled buildings. Who would have thought that the forests of Gelderland conceal priceless works of art, or that the medieval town of Franeker houses one of the world's oldest working planetariums? These are just two surprises waiting to be revealed before viewing the springtime splendour of Keukenhof Gardens.

Amsterdam and Bulbfields Spectacular
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Whirling windmills set amongst fields of tulip blooms await you on this cruise, featuring the heart of the Dutch bulbfields, Amsterdam and the IJsselmeer. Nowhere in spring is better celebrated than at the magnificent Keukenhof Gardens, where a huge palette of floral colours are reflected in the shimmering lakes. The cruise begins and ends in Amsterdam, the sparkling diamond centre of the world that glistens on its labyrinth of canals and waterways.

Rhine Discovery
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The romantic narrowest stretch of the Rhine River Valley is so easy to fall in love with. Arising from its waters, its steep valley hillsides yield the fruit of luscious crips white wines. The fairytail castles balancing imperiously on the mountain summits safeguard a wealth of secrets, whilst the seven maidens transformed into stone in the narrow channel's depths lure you to learn of their stories. Nestling at the water's edge, traditional quaint German towns and villages extend a warm welcome.

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For a brochure call (01902) 319999 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm), email starextra@expressandstar.co.uk or starextra@shropshirestar.co.uk(please include your name and address) or book online: www.rivercruiseline.co.uk
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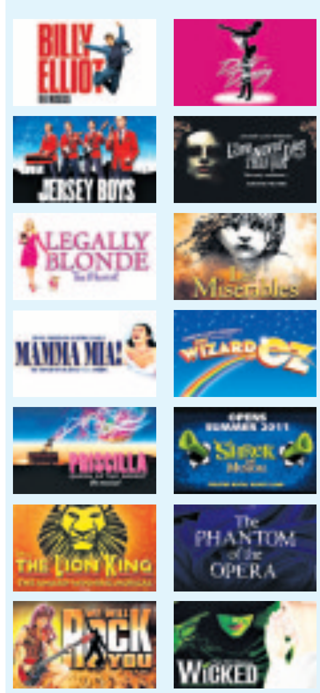

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Please note: the "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

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Weeding first job for a tidy garden

Subjects for open planting include the California poppy (Eschscholzia), pictured above, while to encourage maximum flowering, buy a feed that is high in potassium such as Rose Plus or Miracle-Gro Slow Release Rose & Shrub Plant Food.

■ Words and pictures supplied by Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. Always read the label and use pesticides safely

AS plants in the garden put on new leaf growth and spring bulbs, shrubs and fruit trees provide attractive blooms it's time to get your hands dirty and get stuck in to some real gardening.

Now that outdoor soil is becoming warmer you will notice that weed seeds are sprouting – a sure indication that it's time for action. Your winter hibernation is over.

PATHS & DRIVES

The milder weather will encourage the emergence of weeds in all areas of the garden, but they look much worse when they disfigure the look of gravel drives and pathways. You can treat any weeds now and prevent new seedlings from growing with one application of Pathclear Weedkiller or Pathclear Gun! Weedkiller (a ready to use formulation). The concentrate comes in ready-measured sachets and is more economical than the ready-mixed Gun!

These special path and patio weedkillers are designed not only to kill existing weeds but also to give long term control of new seedlings that emerge later. Pathclear Gun! contains glyphosate, a systemic weedkiller that gets deep down into the root system to kill off dandelions, docks, bindweed and the like. It also contains a residual weedkiller that continues to control seedling weeds for up to three months.

DECORATIVE GARDEN BORDERS

Weeds are the first job to be tackled if you are going to have a clean and tidy garden this spring. If they are left to grow unfettered they will swamp your flower border robbing the soil and the surrounding plants of available nutrients, moisture and space.

The quickest way to clear the weeds is to spray them off with Weedol Rootkill Plus or Fast Action Roundup RTU, taking care to only wet the weeds, not the surrounding plants. This will save hours of back-breaking work hand weeding and the removal of piles of unwanted growth.

Feeding established roses, shrubs and herbaceous perennials such as delphiniums, campanula and peony is an essential job in spring. To encourage maximum flowering, buy a feed that is high in potassium such as Rose Plus or Miracle-Gro Slow Release Rose & Shrub Plant Food. Sprinkle one or two handfuls around each plant and use a hand trowel to work the granules into the top 3cm of soil.

If you have large clumps of delphiniums that have lost their flowering vigour, the best remedy is to divide the clump up into separate plants so each one has enough room to create a full root system that will support some beautiful large flowers. Dig up the clump and pull apart into smaller portions that have strong roots and shoots.

Once watered in, thoroughly spread a mulch layer of organic matter over the soil surface to hold in moisture and to deter weeds. For the best looking results spread a layer of Forest Bark chips from Levington to make a great decorative textured finish.

Tender plants such as dahlias need planting in garden borders so that new shoots emerge in May after the last frost is over. Dig planting holes at least 15cm deep leaving a gap of around 60cm between plants. Dahlias are hungry and thirsty customers so prepare the soil well by digging in plenty of organic matter into the bottom of the planting hole and adding several handfuls of Miracle-Gro Slow Release Plant Food to the soil that you work between the swollen fingers of the tubers and up to normal ground level.

Sowing seeds of hardy annuals can be started out in garden soil as soon as temperatures are warm enough. Subjects for open planting include sweet peas, love-in-a-mist, cornflower, California poppy (Eschscholzia) pot marigold (calendula) poached egg plant (Limnathes) clarkia and godetia.

You can also buy a packet of mixed hardy annuals as wildflower mixtures – there's one to attract butterflies, one a meadowland mix and another a fragrant mix.

Don't forget that nasturtiums make great ground cover or climbers.

TOPICAL TIP

If blackspot disease was a problem last year, spray roses now with a dual action systemic rose treatment such as RoseClear Ultra to protect the new foliage from infection.

The quickest way to clear the weeds is with Fast Action Round Up RTU

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Advertisement Feature

DAVID WILSON MERCIA CELEBRATES A FANTASTIC START TO THE YEAR AT CHURCHFIELDS PLACE

LEADING housebuilder David Wilson Mercia has enjoyed a terrific start to the year at Churchfields Place – the five star developer's sought-after new development on All Saint's Way, West Bromwich, where nine households have reserved a new home since the start of the year.

Rita Tyler, Sales Manager for David Wilson Mercia, commented "Churchfields Place is a terrific development and I'm delighted with the fantastic start we've had to 2011 here.

"It's in a beautiful location and enjoys exceptional views over Dartmouth golf club to the rear of the development and leafy Sandwell Valley Country Park beyond. We have a really good range of properties here to suit the needs of local homebuyers – from two-bedroom apartments to five-bedroom homes – and it's no surprise that we've started the year so well.

"We're really looking forward to Spring, too, now that we have released a superb selection of three-bedroom three-storey Buckley-style townhouses, which are ideal for growing families and are sure to be a real hit with the area's homebuyers."

The Buckley-style home benefits from a contemporary modern kitchen as well as a cloakroom, storage cupboard and spacious living and dining room with French doors to the stylish rear garden. The first floor features two double-bedrooms that provide plenty of space for the kids and a fitted bathroom. The second floor is undoubtedly the centre piece of the property and provides a magnificent master bedroom with ensuite shower-room and large dressing area.

"The Buckley-style three-bedroom home really shows off all the advantages of three-storey living" continued Rita. "You get so much more for your money – and having an additional floor has given us the opportunity to provide a fantastic second-floor bedroom that is ideal for mum and dad.

"I'm delighted to say that we will be offering free carpeting and designer curtains to anyone who reserves one of these superb homes in March and goes on to complete their purchase. It's great to be able to offer homebuyers a helping hand when it comes to moving home and I'm really pleased to be able to make this offer available.

"With prices starting from just £197,500 for one of these sought-after family homes, demand is sure to be high and I have every confidence that we will continue to build on our early successes at Churchfields Place this year and continue to provide the quality and service that is the hallmark of David Wilson Homes."

Tucked away just off the A4031, Churchfields Place combines the peace and quiet of rural living with the convenience of living in a modern town.
The development offers excellent access to West Bromwich town centre as well as the M5 and M6 for the wider West Midlands.

Churchfields Place currently offers a selection of two-bedroom apartments and three-, four- and five-bedroom homes from £129,950 to £420,000. For more information please contact the sales office on 0121 588 6075 open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm or log on to www.dwh.co.uk/churchfieldsplace

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- GCH, UPVC d/g & security system

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WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD SOUTH, QUINTON — NEW
- Semi-det home with attached garage
- Well presented home - needs some modernisation
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom & WC on first floor
- 2 reception rms, kitchen, veranda & d/s WC
- UPVC double glazing & GCH
- Driveway & garage giving off road parking

£169,950 Ref: D1035

MAYSWOOD GROVE, QUINTON — NEW
- Semi-det home with driveway
- 3 bedrooms & shower room
- 2 reception rooms & kitchen
- UPVC double glazing & GCH
- Garage at head of the garden
- No upward chain - vacant possession

£129,950 Ref: D1033

NEWHALL ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS — NEW
- 3 bed semi detached home with driveway
- Refitted 14ft kitchen with built in appliances
- Lounge leading to rear lobby & d/s WC
- 3 bedrooms & bathroom on first floor
- UPVC double glazing & fascias fitted
- Benefits from GCH to property

£109,950 Ref: D1032

PERRYHILL LANE, OLDBURY — NEW PRICE
- Immaculate & individually designed M&B home
- Lounge & UPVC conservatory rm
- Custom built breakfast kitchen & d/s WC
- Three bedrooms & family bathroom
- Large gravelled driveway with gated access
- UPVC double glazing & gas central heating

£179,950 Ref: D1018

GATELEY ROAD, OLDBURY — NEW PRICE
- Semi detached home with side garage
- Dining rm & separate lounge to rear
- Fitted kitchen, side veranda/store, d/s WC
- Three bedrooms & bathroom on first floor
- Off road parking with access to garage
- Fitted with GCH & (majority) UPVC d/g

£139,950 Ref: D920

JARVIS CRESCENT, OLDBURY — NEW PRICE
- Well presented semi 3 bed with conservatory
- Lounge & downstairs bathroom
- Master bedroom - ensuite wash rm & toilet
- Off road parking to front & garden to rear
- UPVC d/g, fascias & soffits - alarm system
- Benefiting GCH (combi boiler fitted)

£114,950 Ref: D979

TITFORD ROAD, OLDBURY — NEW PRICE
- Spacious cottage style semi
- Lounge & sitting room
- Open plan kitchen / dining room
- Downstairs bathroom
- 3 good sized bedrooms
- Enclosed gardens to rear

£114,950 Ref: D949

CASTLE ROAD EAST, OLDBURY
- Detached & extended 4 bed family home
- En-suite shower room & refitted bathroom
- 14ft family room off 16ft breakfast kitchen
- Garden rm leads to utility area & d/s WC
- Large driveway & garage
- UPVC D/G, GCH & security system

£349,950 Ref: D940

BISHOPS WALK, HALESOWEN BORDER
- Five bedroom home with double garage
- No upward chain - vacant possession
- Lounge, sep dining room & study
- Breakfast kitchen, utility room & d/s WC
- Master bed with en-suite shower room
- Fitted with UPVC d/g & GCH

£299,950 Ref: D1001

MONMOUTH ROAD, BEARWOOD
- Detached family home with garage
- Extended lounge & dining room
- Extended & fitted breakfast kitchen
- 3 bedrooms & family bathroom
- Attractive lawned garden to rear
- UPVC double glazing & GCH fitted

£249,950 Ref: D898

HIGH FARM ROAD, HALESOWEN
- Extended semi detached home
- UPVC conservatory & lounge diner
- Fitted kitchen & separate utility rm
- Three bedrooms & family bathroom
- Large driveway leads to 21ft garage
- UPVC double glazing & GCH fitted

£155,000 Ref: D927

PERRY HILL LANE, OLDBURY
- Individually built home
- Extended to rear with dining room
- Refitted bathroom & 2 bedrooms
- Separate lounge - feature fireplace
- Driveway & lawned garden
- UPVC D/G & gas C/H fitted

£154,950 Ref: D944

GRAFTON ROAD, OLDBURY
- 3 bed home with driveway & garage
- Kitchen with built in appliances
- 2 reception rms & conservatory/breakfast rm
- 3 bedrooms & bathroom on first floor
- UPVC double glazing & GCH
- Well proportioned enclosed rear garden

£154,950 Ref: D999

WHEATCROFT CLOSE, HALESOWEN
- Semi detached home in Cul-de-Sac
- No upward chain - vacant possession
- Extended Kitchen & lounge/dining room
- Three bedrooms & bathroom
- Off road parking & side garage
- GCH & Double Glazing

£144,950 Ref: D934

MASTERS LANE, HALESOWEN
- Deceptively spacious 3 bed family home
- Breakfast kitchen, lounge & dining rm
- Downstairs WC - integral garage
- Blockpaved off road parking to front
- Enclosed rear garden
- Majority UPVC d/g & GCH

£135,000 Ref: D943

LOCKINGTON CROFT, HALESOWEN
- Spacious 3 bed home in cul-de-sac location
- No upward chain - Vacant Possession
- In popular Howley Grange area
- Lounge/diner, breakfast kitchen & utility rm
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- Gas central heating fitted

£125,000 Ref: D991

BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY
- Well presented 3 bed mid terraced home
- Situated in popular residential area
- Lounge, Refitted kitchen diner& utility
- Bathroom with Whirlpool bath
- Well tended gardens to front & rear
- UPVC DBG, GCH & security system

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Couple find their dream home

Stuart and Emma are delighted with their Dovedale Park home in Birmingham

BARRATT West Midlands has shown a couple from Birmingham how easy it can be to make your new home your own when they moved to a brand new home at the five star housebuilder's Dovedale Park development on Jackdaw Road.

Stuart Carroll, 30, and Emma Fazakarley, 24, moved in to theirthree-bedroom Essex-style property in late 2010 and within days had transformed it into their dream home.

"Some people spend years improving their home" said Stuart, a 30-year-old history teacher. "But when we visited the property we knew that it was perfect for us."

"We had our home exactly the way we wanted it from the day we moved in.

"Emma organised all of the decorating and with a bit of help from our family we had everything looking fantastic within a week."

"We really liked the property from the first time we saw it, as it was much more modern and up to date than a second hand home."

"We had plenty of help from Barratt West Midlands too and we took advantage of their Head Start scheme, which was a real incentive to move.

"And with such a great house we didn't mind pushing the boat out to get the most we could for our money."

Barratt West Midlands' Head Start scheme is designed for homebuyers who are struggling to get on to the property ladder and don't have the large deposit required by some lenders. They need a deposit of just five per cent and only an 80 per cent mortgage, which means lower monthly repayments.

Emma, a 24-year-old dental nurse, commented "We weren't looking for a new home but a friend of ours recommended that we should visit the show home here, so we went to see what there was and haven't looked back since."

Helpful

"The staff have been nothing but helpful and made everything really easy for us. Sue was our sales adviser and she was really friendly and she always says hello if she sees you."

"Our house has a nice, traditional layout and the second hand homes that we saw didn't compare to a new build."

Stuart added: "What's more, you wouldn't believe the change that the development has made to the local area. My dad used to live here and said he couldn't believe the transformation that had taken place."

Lisa Thacker, Sales Manager for Barratt West Midlands, said "It's fantastic to see that Stuart and Emma have had such a great experience with us and we were delighted that they have found exactly what they were looking for at Dovedale Park.

"It's great to get such positive feedback because it reinforces the fact that we're delivering exactly what the area's homebuyers want – and that's terrific news for both of us."

Dovedale Park is located in the area of Perry Common, close to scenic spots such as leafy Sutton Park.

The development offers a selection of one- and two-bedroom apartments priced from £118,950 and two- and three-bedroom houses priced from £155,950.

For more information, call the sales office on 0121 384 7391 open seven days a week from 10am to 5pm. Alternatively, call the sales hotline on 0844 811 9933 open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm; or log on to the www.barratthomes.co.uk/dovedalepark website.

Terrace proposal for site hit by flytippers

EYESORE land repeatedly hit by flytippers in Tipton will be turned into 10 homes after being put up for sale by Sandwell Council.

Birmingham-based MDH Properties Ltd has applied for permission to transform land in Toll End Road into eight terraced houses and two semi-detached houses.

Housing was previously on the site but was bought by the council 25 years ago for a road-widening scheme which never came to fruition.

Documents submitted with plans by Oldbury-based chartered architect Lane Lister Associates said the derelict site has become overgrown in recent years.

Ward representative Councillor Derek Rowley said the proposals would fit in with the existing residential area.

"The site is an eyesore and has become overgrown and hit by flytippers," he said.

"Over the years the council has paid to have it cleared up five or six times.

"The housing will turn around the site, which used to be terraced houses years ago before it was purchased by the authority for a road-widening scheme talked about for years which never happened."

Surplus

He added: "The land is next to houses and it would be wrong to put anything else in there, like an industrial premises, because it would then affect the existing homes and residents."

The site is one of 18 sites put up for sale by the authority after being deemed "surplus to requirements".

The authority has made £388,000 from the sale of 15 sites vacant land and empty shops and offices. It now plans to identify more sites for sale in the coming weeks.

The council is trying to save £75 million over the next four years and is selling off land and buildings across the borough to bring in extra cash. In total, the portfolio is worth about £4 million.

Land already offloaded includes plots at Carisbrooke Road, Wednesbury; Halesowen Street in Rowley Regis; Lea Avenue Wednesbury; Toll End Road, Tipton and Jervoise Street West Bromwich.

Also sold off was the former Dolmac site in Tipton, which was bought by the council to make way for the construction of Tipton's Owen Street underpass.

Unique opportunity at Chuchfields Place

LEADING housebuilder David Wilson Mercia is offering homebuyers the chance to move into the centrepiece property at Churchfields Place – the five star housebuilder's sought after West Bromwich development off All Saints Way, where a five-bedroom family home has been released.

The Manning-style property is the only one of its type on the development.

The Manning-style home provides the character you would expect from an older property with all of the benefits of new build housing, including David Wilson Mercia's exclusive five year warranty.

The stylish entrance hall opens out onto the study and large sitting room with French doors to the garden to the right as well as the traditional dining room from the left of the hall that provides an excellent space for formal occasions. To the rear of the ground floor, the property benefits from a spacious breakfast/kitchen with attached family room, including a second set of French doors to the rear garden that come in perfect time for spring.

Upstairs, the property features five attractive and generously-sized bedrooms – two with an en suite bathroom – as well as a separate bathroom.

Rita Tyler, Sales Manager for David Wilson Mercia, said: "The Manning-style property is a terrific family home and benefits from a really prestigious position on the development. It's really important to us that families feel that their home is unique to them, which makes the Manning a really special property at Churchfields Place – as it is the only one of its type here."

"Churchfields Place is a beautiful development and enjoys exceptional views over Dartmouth golf club to the rear of the development and leafy Sandwell Valley Country Park beyond. "

The development offers excellent access to West Bromwich town centre as well as the M5 and M6.

Churchfields Place currently offers a selection of one- and two-bedroom apartments from £94,950 and three-, four- and five-bedroom homes from £179,950 to £420,000. For more information contact the sales office on 0121 588 6075 open seven days a week from 10am to 5pm.

Housing to be on tap at site

WOLVERHAMPTON regeneration boss Peter Bilson has praised plans to transform the site of a former tap-making factory into a housing estate.

Cllr Bilson says creating 92 homes on the old Armitage Shanks site, off Showell Road, Bushbury, would help meet housing demands for the area as well as ridding residents of an eyesore.

Land owner Ideal Standard has submitted an outline planning application to Wolverhampton City Council and is hoping to sell the land to a developer with permission for housing.

Cllr Bilson said: "A new housing development is very much needed in the area. We don't want this site to be left to ruin and certainly having planning permission makes the site much more attractive.

"We hope they act quickly to encourage developers to come forward but it is certainly good news."

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NEW STREEET NORTH
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WESTLEY COURT
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WEST BROM
SAMS LAN
LET
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TRINITY SREET
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HIGH ST
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2 Wigginsmill Road, Wednesbury

This 1979's detached dormer bungalow is situated in a prominent corner position and comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Inner Hallway, Bathroom, Four Bedrooms, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Viewing: 18th March at 11.00am and 30th March at 12.00pm

Guide Price £90,000-£110,000

75 Hampshire Road, West Bromwich

Traditional semi detached property in need of some improvement and modernisation the property offers ideal opportunity for an investor. Fully enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Extended Area, Kitchen, Lobby, Additional Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Viewing: 18th March at 10.30am and 30th March at 11.30am

Guide Price £60,000-£70,000

66 Coleraine Road, Perry Barr

A traditionally styled semi detached property offering well planned accommodation in need of some modernisation but offering ideal opportunity for investment. Porch, Front door to Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Viewing: 19th and 30th March at 10.45 am

Guide Price £85,000-£95,000

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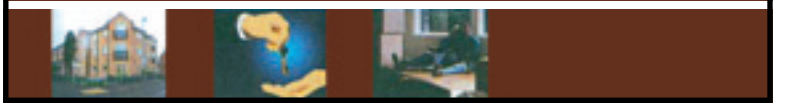

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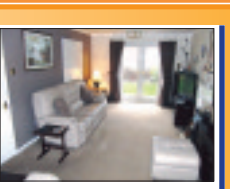

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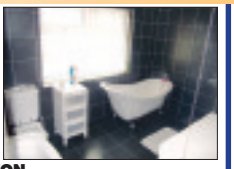
★ Rear garden

Was £146,500 Now £139,995



NEW

TIPTON
MANOR ROAD

★ Extended four double bedroomed semi detached
★ Lounge and dining room
★ Conservatory and fitted kitchen
★ First floor family bathroom
★ Block paved driveway for several vehicles
★ Gated access to tarmacadam driveway to rear
★ Rear garden

£139,995

CALLING FIRST TIME BUYERS!!!

Did you know you can buy your first home with just 5% DEPOSIT for more information and to register on our mailing list

Call 0121 520 2255

NEW

TIPTON
HENN DRIVE

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Living room, dining room, kitchen
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Off road parking and garage
★ Rear garden

£115,000

DO YOU REALLY KNOW HOW YOUR PROPERTY MARKETING IS GOING?

With feedback from all viewings within 48 hours, Monthly update calls and Monthly letters, we believe we do more than any agent to keep you informed and sell your property.

If you are considering changing agents please call

0121 520 2255

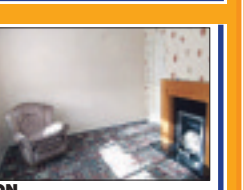
for more information

NEW

WEST BROMWICH
GRENVILLE PLACE

★ Two bedroom modern end terrace
★ Lounge and dining kitchen
★ Conservatory
★ Upstairs family bathroom and separate WC
★ Rear garden with vehicle access
★ No upward chain

£104,950



NEW

TIPTON
STELLA ROAD

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Two reception rooms
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking and garage
★ Rear garden

£94,500

NEW

TIPTON
THUNDERBOLT WAY

★ Ground floor one bedroom apartment
★ Lounge/kitchen
★ Bedroom
★ Shower room
★ Double glazing and electric heating (where specified)
★ Allocated parking

£64,995

NEW

WEST BROMWICH
WHITGREAVE STREET

★ Three bedroom traditional semi detached
★ Through lounge, fitted kitchen
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Gardens to front and rear

£125,000

NEW

TIPTON
CRANMORE CLOSE

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, dining room
★ Conservatory, kitchen
★ Majority double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Detached garage and driveway for several vehicles
★ Front and rear gardens

£120,000

REDUCED

TIPTON
SANNDERS CRESCENT

★ Three bedroom two and a half storey town house
★ Lounge diner, fitted kitchen, ground floor WC
★ En suite to master bedroom, family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage and parking
★ Rear garden

Was £130,000 Now £125,000

Is Your Estate Agent Pro-Active?

People think that all Estate Agents do the same thing. They put a board up, advertise in the papers and put it on Rightmove! This is just the bare minimum and in a buyers market like this one it is not enough! At Skitts we believe we do more than any other local Agent to sell your home, and in most cases up to 4 weeks quicker.

This weekend we are holding an Open Weekend where viewers do not need a specific appointment just turn up between the specified times.

If you would like to sell your home and want to know what we do that is different call us for a FREE MARKET APPRAISAL on 0121 520 2255

'sell with confidence - sell with Skitts'

COSELEY
IVYHOUSE LANE

★ Recently built four bedroom modern detached property plus 2/3 bed detached bungalow ideal for dependent relative or business use
★ Two reception rooms
★ En suite to master bedroom
★ Family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garaging and off road parking
★ Rear garden

WAS £550,000 NOW £525,000

DUDLEY
NEW BIRMINGHAM ROAD

★ Extended four bedroom detached
★ Lounge, extended dining room, extended kitchen, utility
★ Downstairs shower room, en suite to master bedroom
★ Family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Rear garden with gym/play room

£229,950

TIPTON
DOUGHTY CLOSE

★ Modern four bedroom detached on corner plot
★ Lounge with dining area and kitchen and utility room
★ Cloakroom, bathroom and en suite
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Central heating double glazing (where specified)

£214,995

TIPTON
BARNEY CLOSE

★ Four bedroom detached
★ Lounge/dining room, breakfast kitchen
★ Downstairs WC and laundry room
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Front and rear gardens

WAS £199,995 NOW £195,995

TIPTON
WAKE GREEN ROAD

★ Three bedroom semi-detached
★ Lounge/dining room, extended kitchen
★ Laundry room, conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Extended bathroom and third bedroom
★ Block paved driveway, front and rear gardens
★ Viewing via Tipton 0121-520 2255

£169,995 5% Vendor Gifted

TIPTON
VICTORIA ROAD

★ Four bedroom end of terrace
★ Two reception rooms
★ Central heating and double glazing
★ Downstairs shower room (where specified)
★ Upstairs family bathroom

£160,000

TIPTON
BLOOMFIELD ROAD

★ Three storey, three double bedroomed end terrace
★ Lounge, diningkitchen, study, En suite to master bedroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Detached garage
★ Summer house with a 4 seated spa pool
★ Front and rear gardens

£159,995

TIPTON
SEFTON GROVE

★ Two bedroom modern detached
★ One reception room and kitchen diner
★ Recently refitted shower room
★ Car port and off road parking
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Rear garden

£120,000

WEST BROMWICH
ACORN CLOSE

★ Three bedroom end terrace
★ Lounge and dining area
★ Refitted kitchen
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Gardens to front, side and rear
★ Shared off road parking
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)

£114,950

Tipton
0121 520 2255

Wednesbury
0121 505 1818

Bilston
01902 353578

Willenhall
01902 631151

Wolverhampton
01902 732324

Sedgley
01902 686868

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The UK's number one property website

www.skitts.net

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
LEVESON DRIVE

★ Three bedroom modern semi detached
★ Entrance hall
★ Lounge
★ Dining kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Front and rear gardens

£119,995

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
SHINGLERS DRIVE

★ Three storey semi detached
★ Three/four bedrooms
★ Lounge, kitchen diner and downstairs cloakroom
★ En suite to master bedroom plus family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Rear garden

£140,000

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

OLDBURY
ALBION STREET

★ Newly built semi detached
★ Three bedrooms
★ Downstairs cloakroom
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ En suite to master bedrooms
★ Garage
★ Off road parking

WAS £155,000 NOW £149,995

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

OLDBURY
ALBION STREET

★ Newly built two and a half storey semi detached
★ Three bedrooms
★ Downstairs cloakroom
★ Upstairs Family bathroom
★ En suite to master bedroom
★ Garage
★ Off road parking

£155,000

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

OLDBURY
SALOP STREET

★ Three bedroom detached
★ Lounge
★ Dining kitchen
★ Downstairs WC
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Rear garden

£159,995

SAT & SUN 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
GREAT MEADOW

★ Two bedroom coach house
★ Entrance hall
★ Lounge
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Allocated parking

£89,995

SAT & SUN 1 pm-4 pm

TIPTON
HUDSON ROAD

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, dining room and kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Garage
★ Rear garden

£125,000

SAT 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
PARK LANE WEST

★ Two bedroom mid terrace
★ Lounge
★ Breakfast kitchen
★ First floor bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Rear garden

WAS £89,995 NOW £86,500

SAT 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
TOLL END ROAD

★ Two/three bedroom extended semi detached
★ Lounge and extended breakfast kitchen
★ Downstairs bedroom/dining room
★ Downstairs shower room and first floor family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Separate detached garage, front and rear gardens

£139,995

SAT 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
LEVESON DRIVE

★ Modern mid terrace property
★ Two bedrooms
★ Kitchen diner
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Off road parking to the front
★ Rear garden

£99,995

SAT 12 noon-2 pm

TIPTON
PUPPY GREEN

★ Three bedroom detached house
★ Through lounge/dining room
★ Refitted downstairs WC, upstairs bathroom and en suite
★ Breakfast kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and block paved driveway

£174,950

SAT 10.30 am-11.00 am

TIPTON
CRANMORE CLOSE

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, dining room
★ Conservatory, kitchen
★ Majority double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Detached garage and driveway for several vehicles
★ Front and rear gardens

£120,000

All of the properties featured are available to be viewed over the weekend of 19/20 March with no appointment necessary.

Simply turn up within the viewing times stated or alternatively, call us before Saturday for a fixed time appointment.

To view full sales particulars of these properties visit our website: www.skitts.net

or call in and see us

SAT 10.00 am-10.30 am

TIPTON
STELLA ROAD

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Two reception rooms
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking and garage
★ Rear garden

£94,500

SAT 11.00 am-11.30 am

TIPTON
GOSPEL OAK ROAD

★ Modernised three bedroom mid terrace
★ Two reception rooms
★ Fitted kitchen with utility room
★ Downstairs family bathroom
★ En suite shower room
★ Upstairs WC
★ Double glazing and central heating (where specified)
★ Rear garden

WAS £122,500 NOW £119,995

SAT 11.30 am-12.00 noon

WEDNESBURY
WILLINGSWORTH ROAD

★ Two bedroom semi detached bungalow
★ Lounge and kitchen ★ Bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens

£134,995

SAT 12.00 noon-12.30 pm

TIPTON
PLOTS 1 & 2 MYRTLE TERRACE

★ Three bedroom detached houses
★ Lounge/diner
★ Kitchen with appliances
★ En suite to master bedroom
★ Family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Front and rear gardens
★ Fully fitted alarm system

£159,995

SUN 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
MIDDLE MEADOW

★ Modern five bedroom detached three storey property
★ Lounge, dining room and kitchen
★ Downstairs WC, two en suites and family bathroom
★ Conservatory
★ Detached garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens
★ Still under NHBC guarantee

£240,000

SUN 10 am-2 pm

TIPTON
SANNDERS CRESCENT

★ Three bedroom two and a half storey town house
★ Lounge diner, fitted kitchen
★ Ground floor WC, en suite to master bedroom
★ Family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage, parking and rear garden

£127,500

TIPTON
OLD PORT CLOSE

★ Two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge/dining room
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens

£112,500

TIPTON
HIGHFIELD ROAD

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge/diner, kitchen, conservatory
★ Double glazed and central heating (where spec)
★ Driveway and rear garden
★ Alarmed

£110,000

TIPTON
AVERN CLOSE

★ Two bedroom end terrace
★ One reception room and fully fitted kitchen
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Rear garden

£109,995

5% VENDOR GIFTED DEPOSIT

WEST BROMWICH
HARVILLS HAWTHORN

★ Three bedroom end terrace
★ Lounge and dining room
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Downstairs bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Rear garden

£107,000

TIPTON
GILBERT STREET

★ Three bedroom mid terrace
★ Lounge
★ Dining kitchen
★ Conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking

£105,995

TIPTON
TOLL END ROLL

★ Modern two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge and conservatory
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Off road parking
★ Double glazing (where specified)
★ Rear garden

£104,995

TIPTON
AVERN CLOSE

★ Two bedroom end terrace
★ Lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Rear garden

£99,995

TIPTON
SOLLY GROVE

★ Two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Further land to the rear

£97,500

TIPTON
TUDOR STREET

★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge and kitchen
★ Ground floor shower room
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage
★ Rear garden

£94,995

OLDBURY
WESTGATE

★ Three bedroom mid townhouse
★ Through lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Downstairs WC
★ Double glazing and central heating (where specified)
★ Front and rear gardens

£89,995

5% VENDOR GIFTED DEPOSIT

TIPTON
OAK ROAD

★ Three bedroom mid terrace
★ Lounge
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Downstairs WC
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Rear garden

£87,995

Tipton
0121 520 2255

Wednesbury
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Bilston
01902 353578

Willenhall
01902 631151

Wolverhampton
01902 732324

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WEST BROMWICH
Whitworth Drive
Four bedroom family home offering well proportioned accommodation including master bedroom with en-suite shower room., garage and ample off road parking, conservatory, landscaped rear garden.
£239,950

WEDNESBURY
Westmore Way
This splendidly appointed extended five bedroom detached property must be viewed internally to be fully appreciated. Recently refitted kitchen, two reception rooms, double length tandem garage and enclosed rear garden.Competitively priced for quick sale.Vacant possession
£179,950

WEDNESBURY
St Lukes Road
an immaculately presented, double glazed and centrally heated three bedroom semi detached property at the head of a quiet cul de sac.
£149,950

WEDNESBURY
Lime Road
A spacious three bedroom semi detached house in good order throughout with double glazing, central heating, large lounge and rear garden with substantial outbuildings and ample off road parking.
£129,950

WEDNESBURY
Wellcroft Street
Immaculate throughout. A two bedroom traditional semi with central heating, double glazing, conservatory and off road parking - A great all round property purchase
£124,950

DARLASTON
Sandwell Avenue
This two bedroom extended semi detached property is situated in a small cul-de-sac location and benefits from double glazing and condensing central heating system. Viewing recommended
£104,950

DARLASTON
Wolverhampton Street
COMPETITIVELY PRICE DOUBLE GLAZED AND CENTRALLY HEATED TWO BEDROOM MID TERRACE IDEAL AS A STARTER HOME. TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, LONG GARDEN, AVAILABLE WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.
£69,950

WEST BROMWICH
BUSTLEHOLME LANE
- ★ Superior detached house
- ★ Extensively renovated and refurbished
- ★ Four bedrooms
- ★ Extended lounge and seperate dining room
- ★ Fully fitted kitchen
- ★ Family bathroom and en-suite to master
- ★ Enclosed south facing rear garden
- ★ Viewing via Wednesbury office

Offers Over £239,950

WEST BROMWICH
BUSTLEHOLME LANE
Offered for sale with no upward chain, this is a rare opportunity to purchase a traditional-style two bedroom detached bungalow in the very sought after Bustleholme Lane. The property offers tremendous potential to improve and extend (subject to local authority planning permission) and simply must be viewed internally to appreciate.
£185,000

WEDNESBURY
10 OLDBURY STREET
Having been lovingly improved by the current owners, internal viewing is considered essential to appreciate the quality and size of the internal accommodation which benefits from central heating and double glazing and briefly comprises of: reception hall, dining kitchen, family bathroom, front and rear garden, detached garage to rear
£139,950

WEDNESBURY
HAWKSWOOD DRIVE
- ★ Three bedroom semi detached
- ★ Lounge/dining room
- ★ Fitted kitchen
- ★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
- ★ En suite to master bedroom
- ★ Garage and driveway
- ★ Front and rear gardens

£134,995

WEDNESBURY
THE FURLONG
skitts are delighted to offer for sale this modern style end town house. having three bedrooms and conveniently situated on a corner plot the property is fully double glazed and centrally heated and has the added bonus of a garage and ample parking.
£122,500

Wednesbury
Darby Road
Situated in a popular road, this three bedroom semi is competitively priced and offers well appointed accommodation which benefits from central heating and double glazing throughout and briefly comprises of : Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, ground floor Bathroom, three Bedrooms, attractive generous rear Garden and off road parking to the fore.
£117,500

WEST BROMWICH
SIDDONS WAY
- ★ Modern-style mid town house
- ★ Immaculately presented throughout
- ★ Two bedrooms
- ★ Situated in a cul de sac close to West Bromwich
- ★ Spacious conservatory
- ★ Rear garden
- ★ Off road parking to the fore
- ★ Viewings via Wednesbury office

£112,000

WEDNESBURY
VICARAGE ROAD
Situated in a very popular road, close to Wednesbury town centre, this well appointed traditional-style mid terraced property must be viewed internally to be fully appreciated. Being competitively priced for a quick sale, the accommodation includes two reception rooms, two bedrooms plus attic room - fantastic value.
£89,950

DARLASTON
WAVERLEY ROAD
Situated in a popular road, close to the amenities of Darlaston town centre, this spacious traditional-style mid terrace property has central heating and double glazing and offers potential for further improvement..
£84,950

Darlaston
Hall Street East
A three bedroom end terraced property with central heating, double glazing, and no upward chain. Having a ground floor wc and first floor bathroom, lounge, kitchen and gardens to front and rear, this could be an ideal first time purchase.
£79,950

Darlaston
Heathfield Lane West
Having the benefit of central heating and double glazing, this traditional semi would be ideal for first time buyers looking for a home in which to grow. Within the catchment area of popular local schools and close to Darlaston town centre and transport links to Wolverhampton, Walsall and Birmingham this attractively priced property briefly comprises of : Reception hall, two reception rooms, kitchen, guest wc, three bedrooms and first floor shower room, generous rear garden and driveway providing off road parking to the fore
£79,950

WEDNESBURY
MYVOD ROAD
Internal viewing is considered essential to appreciate the quality of the accommodation offered by this three bedroom traditional-style semi-detached property, situated on a generous plot with potential for extension (subject to local authority planning permission). Benefiting from central heating and double glazing and an intruder alarm system.
£124,950

WEDNESBURY
CRANKHALL LANE
This nicely presented three bedroom town house has been extended to provide excellent family accommodation. With central heating and double glazing throughout the property benefits from off road parking to the front
£94,950

West Bromwich
Adelaide Avenue
Having central heating and double glazing, this three bedroom semi has a south-facing garden as well a garage and car port. Quietly situated and for sale with no upward chain, this property has a lot to offer a young family and briefly comprises : Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, three Bedrooms, first floor Bathroom, Gardens to front and rear and Garage
£127,500

DARLASTON
HALL STREET
THIS MODERN TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT IS OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO UPWARD CHAIN. WITH ECONOMY 7 ELECTRIC HEATING AND DOUBLE GLAZING THE PROPERTY IS CLOSE TO ALL AMENITIES AND INCLUDES PRIVATE PARKING TO THE REAR.
£62,950

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96 WALSALL STREET, WEDNESBURY, WS10 9BY
For a cuppa or glass of wine

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- **NO WITHDRAWAL FEE**
- **FREE EPC**
- **FREE 3D FLOORPLAN**
- **FREE 3EDGE GOOGLE EARTH SATELLITE**
- **FREE RIGHTMOVE PREMIER LISTING**

CALL OR VISIT US NOW FOR A FREE MARKET APPRAISAL OF YOUR HOME

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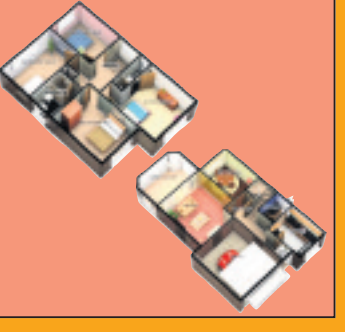
SKITTS WEDNESBURY



Wednesbury
0121 505 1818

Tipton
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01902 631151

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Redrow Marketing Suite Open: Daily from 10am - 5.30pm
Visit: redrow.co.uk/heritage **View:** redrow.tv **Call:** 0121 557 3881

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ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR

16 Upper High Street
Wednesbury WS10 7HQ
Tel: 0121 506 7670

Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

LET IN 2 DAYS
DARLASTON
PHOENIX RISE
- One Bedroom Flat
- First Floor Lounge/Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS Considered

£370 PCM

NEW
DUDLEY PORT
DUDLEY PORT
- 2 Bed flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazed
- Sorry No DHSS

£395 PCM

NEW
WEDNESBURY
MANIFOLD WAY
- One bedroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- One Bedroom
- SORRY NO DHSS

£395 PCM

TIPTON
ELIZABETH WALK
- One Bedroom Flat
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- One Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Communal Gardens
- Car Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£395 PCM

NEW
WEDNESBURY
LOWER HIGH STREET
- Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Allocated Parking
- DHSS Accepted

£410 PCM

DARLASTON
THE AVENUE
- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Communal Grounds
- Allocated Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£450 pcm

DARLASTON
DORSETT ROAD
- 2nd Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Two bathrooms
- Designated Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

£450 pcm

WEDNESBURY
WALDRON CLOSE
- End Terraced House
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£475 pcm

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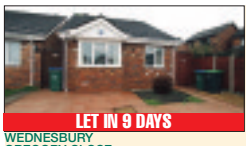
& 6 Months Rent Guarantee
FREE OF CHARGE



LET IN 9 DAYS
WEDNESBURY
GREGORY CLOSE
- Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Sorry NO DHSS

£475 pcm

NEW
DARLASTON
GORDON STREET
- End terraced house
- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Reception rooms
- Ground floor bathroom
- Fitted kitchen
- Garden

£475 PCM

WEDNESBURY
KING STREET
- 2 Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Entrance Hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garden

£495 PCM

TAMEBRIDGE
TANACETUM DRIVE
- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception rooms
- Conservatory
- Family Bathroom
- Ensuite Shower Room
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£575 PCM

NEW
COSELEY
BRADLEYS LANE
- 5 Bed Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Study
- Utility Room
- Five Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Sorry NO DHSS

£650 PCM

DARLASTON
WALSALL ROAD
- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Two Further Bedrooms
- Detached Garage
- Sorry NO DHSS

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SMETHWICK

Florence Road

A rare opportunity to acquire an extremely spacious, considerably improved and extended 6 BEDROOMED family home offering flexible living accommodation throughout and truly requiring an internal inspection. Having double glazing, gas radiator heating and comprising :- Entrance hall (with w.c off), delightful lounge, sitting room, fitted kitchen (having oven/hob), spacious conservatory/garden room, dining room, fitted utility/kitchen (with oven/hob), downstairs shower room, 6 good sized bedrooms (master having shower room en-suite and bed 2 with bathroom en-suite), super house bathroom, DOUBLE GARAGE (with additioanl fitted kitchen area at the rear), and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £369,950

TIPTON

Hartland Road

Enviably situated in a pleasant cul-de-sac; this most distinctive, double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroomed detached family that would now benefit from sympathetic cosmetic improvement works, yet offers excellent potential. The deceptively spacious accommodation briefly comprises; entrance porch, hall, guest w.c., living room, dining room, kitchen. Three good bedrooms, bathroom with separate w.c.. Garage, block paved driveaway, and a pleasant rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £179,950

OLDBURY

Goode Close

An opportunity to acquire a spacious, delightfully presented, considerably improved 3 Bedroomed family home occupying a pleasant cul-de-sac position upon this popular development, having double glazing, gas radiator heating, briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, hall, delightful spacious through lounge with dining area, opening through to superb conservatory, fitted kitchen (with oven/hob), 3 bedrooms, attractive bathroom, off road parking, carport, useful store (previously garage) and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £169,000

SMETHWICK

Holly Lane

An opportunity to acquire a spacious, well presented 3 bedroomed Semi detached property with delightful outlook from the front towards local park, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule (with downstairs w.c., off), delightful spacious lounge, fitted dining kitchen (having oven/hob), 3 bedrooms, bathroom and pleasant rear garden. Viewing essential to fully appreciate the superb accommodation on offer. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £149,995

TIPTON

Watts Close, Foxyards

A conscientiously maintained, FREEHOLD, gas centrally heated & mostly double glazed semi detached in favoured cul de sac. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, transverse lounge with feature 'living flame' fireplace, breakfast kitchen with glazed verandah beyond, tiled shower room, two double bedrooms (presently sub-divided to provide three bedrooms), boarded loft space, driveway to GARAGE, neat garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,950

SMETHWICK

Laundry Road

Well proportioned, deceptively spacious 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property, conveniently situated, requiring inspection and briefly comprising :- Front reception room, rear reception room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, useful loft space and rear garden. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £74,950

OLDBURY

Ascot Walk

A deceptively spacious, well proportioned and thoughtfully improved double bedroomed ground floor flat conveniently situated for local amenities/facilities, having double glazing, requiring internal inspection and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, delightful lounge, kitchenette, spacious double bedroom, attractive bathroom and garage in separate block. Viewing highly recommended. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £64,950

DUDLEY

Hillmeads Drive, Oakham

Enviably situated in favoured/exclusive cul de sac, a substantial, particularly SPACIOUS, freehold, gas centrally heated & double glazed detached family residence. Accommodation includes imposing reception hall, reappointed/fitted cloakroom, elegant 19ft lounge, separate dining room (double French doors to garden), breakfast kitchen, laundry, four bedrooms (principal bedroom with shower room en suite), reappointed bathroom, double garage (17'4" x 17'0") and lengthy expertly tended sheltered rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £279,950

TIVIDALE

Oakham Road

An exceptionally spacious, significantly enhanced/enlarged, freehold, gas centrally heated & either uPVC or aluminium frame double glazed detached in favoured district with magnificent PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS, and abutting on to paddock/fields. Accommodation provides; porch, imposing reception hall, two double bedrooms, 16 ft lounge with patio doors, reappointed bathroom with a white suite & a separate toilet, refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units, oven, hob & filter, lobby. Stairs up to first floor roof space with two windows & significant potential. Double (tandem) garage, magnificent gardens. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £249,950

TIPTON

Sedgley Road West

An EXCEPTIONALLY SPACIOUS, gas centrally heated & mostly uPVC double glazed Edwardian semi detached of tremendous character with many fine period features. To the ground floor, entrance vestibule, lengthy reception hall, sitting room with bay, separate lounge, useful cellar, kitchen. To the first floor, three bedrooms & a bathroom. To the second floor, gallery landing & double bedroom 4. Fine corner plot, secure gated parking and LARGE DOUBLE "CONTRACTOR'S GARAGE". SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £160,000

OLDBURY

Ashes Road

A spacious improved and extended four bedroomed semi detached having gas radiator heating and double glazing, requiring internal inspection and comprising:- Porch, welcoming hall, magnificent lounge with feature fireplace and double opening doors to breakfast kitchen with fitted Range cooker, downstairs shower room, utility, further sitting room, four good sized bedrooms, house bathroom, off road parking and large garden with useful brick store/workshop. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers Around: £149,950

TIPTON

Baker Street

A tremendously modernised & improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & majority uPVC double glazed semi detached enviably situated upon wider than average corner plot & convenient for so many amenities. Superb accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall, spacious through lounge/dining room (formerly separate rooms), refitted kitchen, uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, three bedrooms, reappointed shower room (with white suite), DOUBLE & SINGLE GARAGES, block paved driveway, rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £114,950

HARBORNE

Sheepmoor Close

Occupying a pleasant position within this popular, convenient neighbourhood, providing delightful outlook towards park, this deceptively spacious, well presented ground floor flat truly requires internal inspection to be fully appreciated, having double glazing, warm air heating and briefly comprising Communal entrance, hall, spacious through lounge, attractive kitchen, double bedroom, re-fitted bathroom, communal gardens and garage in separate block. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £104,950

OLDBURY

Brook Road

This deceptively spacious, well proportioned 2 bedroomed ground floor flat truly requires internal inspection to be fully appreciated, having double glazing, gas raditator heating and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall, attractive spacious lounge, fitted kitchen (with oven/hob and dishwasher), 2 double bedrooms, bathroom and PLEASANT GOOD SIZED REAR GARDEN. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £98,500

TIVIDALE

Mary Road

Conveniently situated close to City Road, a conscientiously maintained freehold, uPVC double glazed semi-detached with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS and within walking distance of so many amenities. Offering considerable potential, the accommodation includes entrance porch, reception hall, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, pantry, two large double bedrooms (both with wardrobes), bathroom with shower. Block paved foregarden, good sized/secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £69.950

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WELLESLEY ROAD, OLDBURY

£79,950 NEW

★TWO BEDROOM ★MID TERRACED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN ★SHOWER ROOM
★REAR GARDEN

PERRY COURT, OLDBURY

£87,950 REDUCED

★ TWO BEDROOM FLAT
★ LOUNGE ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ BATHROOM ★ PRIVATE PARKING
★ CENTRAL HEATING
★ DOUBLE GLAZING

FERGUSON ROAD, OLDBURY

Awaiting Picture

£95,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★SEMI DETACHED
★LOUNGE ★KITCHEN/DINING
★FAMILY BATHROOM
★OFF ROAD PARKING
★REAR GARDEN

BLAKELEY HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

£96,500 NEW

★THREE BEDROOMED ★TERRACED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN ★SHOWER ROOM
★FAMILY BATHROOM★REAR GARDEN
★FRONT DRIVEWAY ★OFF ROAD PARKING

WALLACE ROAD, TIVIDALE

£99,950 REDUCED

★ THREE BEDROOM SEMI
★ LOUNGE ★GUEST W.C.
★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ BATHROOM ★ REAR GARDEN
★ OFF ROAD PARKING

ANITA AVENUE, OLDBURY

£99,995 REDUCED

★ TWO BEDROOMS ★ SEMI DETACHED
★ LOUNGE ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ BATHROOM ★ OFF ROAD PARKING
★ FRONT AND REAR GARDEN
★ DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

WHITE ROAD, SMETHWICK

£105,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★TERRACED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN
★UPSTAIRS BEDROOM
★REAR GARDEN

HURST ROAD, SMETHWICK

Awaiting Picture

£118,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★MID TERRACED
★THROUGH LOUNGE ★KITCHEN
★BATHROOM ★FRONT DRIVEWAY
★ NO CHAIN.

PRINCESS ROAD, OLDBURY

£118,950 NEW

★THREE BEDROOMS ★TERRACED
★LOUNGE ★FITTED KITCHEN/DINER
★GUEST W.C ★FAMILY BATHROOM
★FRONT DRIVEWAY

MOAT ROAD, OLDBURY

£125,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★MID-TERRACED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN
★LOFT-ROOM ★REAR GARDEN

BIRCH LANE, OLDBURY

£129,950 REDUCED

★ TWO BEDROOMS ★ END TERRACE
★ THROUGH LOUNGE/DINER
★ GARDEN★ DOUBLE GLAZING
★ CENTRAL HEATING

WORLDS END LANE, QUINTON

£135,000 REDUCED

★THREE BEDROOM ★SEMI-DETACHED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★KITCHEN ★FAMILY BATHROOM
★FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

BLEAKHOUSE ROAD, OLDBURY

£135,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★SEMI DETACHED
★LOUNGE ★KITCHEN/DINER
★GUEST W.C ★UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
★FRONT & REAR GARDENS

BRANDHALL ROAD, OLDBURY

£165,000 NEW

★THREE BEDROOM ★DETACHED
★LOUNGE/DINER ★FITTED KITCHEN
★GUEST W.C. ★BATHROOM
★FRONT AND REAR GARDEN
★OFF ROAD PARKING ★SIDE GARAGE

JACMAR CRESCENT, SMETHWICK

£169000 REDUCED

★SEMI DETACHED ★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN ★GUEST W/C
★UTILITY ROOM ★THREE BEDROOMS
★BATHROOM★OFF ROAD PARKING
★GARAGE ★REAR GARDEN

HOLLY LANE, SMETHWICK

£179,950 REDUCED

★SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY ★FITTED KITCHEN
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★THREE BEDROOMS ★BATHROOM
★REAR GARDEN ★CENTRAL HEATING
★ DOUBLE GLAZING

POUND ROAD, OLDBURY

£212,000 REDUCED

★THREE BEDROOM★SEMI DETACHED
★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★CONSERVATORY★LOFT ROOM
★GARAGE★OFF ROAD PARKING

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, OLDBURY

£260,000 REDUCED

★ FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★ EXTENDED FITTED KITCHEN
★ FAMILY BATHROOM
★ AMPLE PARKING ★GARAGE

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0121 4299986 Bearwood

NEW

Galton Road, Bearwood

- Larger Style Terrace Property
- Superb Dining Kitchen
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Good Size Bedrooms
- Well Maintained Garden
- Offered on a No Chain Basis

Offers in the region of £179,950

NEW

Wadhurst Road, Edgbaston

- Much Improved Four Bed Detached
- Tastefully Decorated Throughout
- Newly Refitted Kitchen
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Large Private Garden
- Conservatory

Offers in the region of £299,950

NEW

Kelsall Croft, Ladywood

- Well Presented Town House
- Three Bedrooms
- Spacious Breakfast Kitchen
- Garage
- Guest W.C.
- No Chain

Offers in the region of £109,950

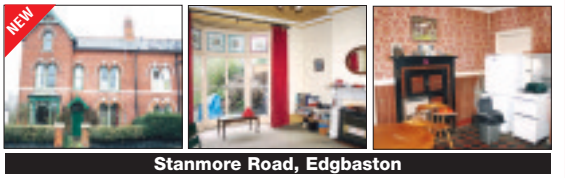
NEW

Katherine Road, Bearwood

- Charming Traditional Terraced Property
- Thoughfully Decorated Throughout
- Delightful Kitchen with Useful Utility
- Two Bedrooms
- Ideal FTB Purchase
- Sought AFter Location

Offers in the region of £149,950

NEW



Stanmore Road, Edgbaston

- Substantial Double Fronted Property
- Tremendous Character
- In need of Upgrading
- Five Bedrooms
- Workshop, Garaging, Outbuildings
- Cellar

Offers in the region of £260,000

FOR SALE BY AUCTION

NEW

267 Shenstone Road, Edgbaston

Mid Terraced in need of Modernisation, Two Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom

Wednesday 6th April, 2011, 12:00 noon (on the premises)
ALL VIEWINGS VIA AUCTIONEERS 0121 477 6768

Guide Price £65,000

NEW

Kendal Rise, Oldbury

- Semi Detached Property
- Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- Three Bedroms Plus Loft Space
- Sunny Aspect Gardens
- Seperate Garge
- Large Conservatory

Offers in the Region Of £184,950

NEW

Dorset Road, Edgbaston

- Well Appointed Traditional Terrace
- Full of Character and Original Features
- Stylish Dining Kitchen
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Private Rear Garden

Offers in the region of £164,950

Mill Lane, Bartley Green

- A Two Bed Semi-Detached
- In need of General Modernisation
- Good Size Rear Garden
- No Upward Chain

Offers in the region of £84,950

NEW PRICE

Reginald Road, Bearwood

- An Extensively Renovated Terrace
- Contemporary Design Throughout
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Private Rear Garden
- Viewing is Highly Recommended

Offers in the region of £124,950

Stirling Road, Edgbaston

- A Generously Sized Terrace
- Period Features Throughout
- Five Good Sized Bedrooms
- No Chain

Offers in the region of £285,000

NEW PRICE

Thimblemill Road, Bearwood

- A Traditional Terrace Property
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Close to Local Amenities
- No Upward Chain
- A Great First Time Purchase!

Offers in the region of £107,000

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Alexandra Way, Tividale — NEW

Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Improved / well presented accommodation briefly comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, side driveway, side garage, fore / rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £124,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Darbys Way, Alexandra Park, Tipton — NEW

Modern 3 Storey Middle Town House having upvc double glazing, gas central heating, no upward chain, spacious family accommodation & briefly comprising, storm porch, reception hall, 2 guest cloakrooms, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen with built in oven/hob, 4 bedrooms, 2 en suite shower rooms, family bathroom, integral garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £144,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

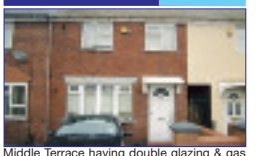
Tudor Court, Tipton — NEW

Purpose Built First Floor Flat having upvc double glazing. Reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower and garage in separate block.
OFFERS AROUND: £63,500
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Stella Road, Tipton — NEW

Semi Detached offering no upward chain and briefly comprising, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, driveway, garage, fore / rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £94,500
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Wood Lane, West Bromwich — NEW



Middle Terrace having double glazing & gas central heating. Reception hall, lounge, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, driveway to front & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £84,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Sannders Crescent, Tipton — REDUCED

Modern 2.5 Storey Middle Town House having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & offering no upward chain. Reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, fore / rear gardens and separate garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £124,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Seymour Road, Tipton — NEW

Semi Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating and superbly improved internal accommodation. Viewing highly recommended whilst briefly comprising, porch, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen / dining room, 3 bedrooms, spacious bathroom, block paved fore court and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £132,500
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Holcroft Street, Tipton — NEW

Middle Terrace having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Well presented spacious internal accommodation briefly comprises, lounge, sitting room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, rear yard and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £91,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Anchor Drive, Tipton — NEW

Modern Purpose Built First Floor Apartment having upvc double glazing and offering no upward chain. Reception hall, lounge, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom and allocated parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £69,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tierney Drive, Bridgemere, Tipton — NEW

Modern End Terrace situated on a good size plot, whilst having the benefit of upvc double glazing, gas central heating and superbly improved accommodation. Reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, shower room, driveway to side, fore garden & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £109,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Stella Road, Tipton — NEW

Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Offering no upward chain and spacious family accommodation which briefly comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, dining room, outhouses with w.c. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, enclosed block paved side driveway, side garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £111,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Sannders Crescent, Tipton

Modern Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & offering no upward chain. Spacious family accommodation briefly comprises, storm porch, reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, conservatory, dining room, fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, driveway, integral garage, fore and rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £184,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Middle Meadow, Tipton — NEW

Modern Larger Style Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating and spacious family accommodation. Reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, dining room, conservatory, fitted breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 en suite shower rooms, family bathroom, 2 car driveway & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £179,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Bertram Close, Tipton — NEW

Modern Extended Terrace having upvc double glazing, gas central heating, extended to rear and spacious family accommodation. Reception hall, lounge, sitting room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, fore court to front, 2 garages to rear & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £149,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Gough Drive, Heathfields, Tipton — REDUCED

Modern 3 Storey End Town House having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & cul de sac location. Spacious family accommodation briefly comprises, reception hall, lounge / dining room, study room (possible bedroom 4), fitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, 3 double bedrooms (all with en suite), single garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Stead Close, Burberry Grange, Tipton — NEW

Modern Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & superbly presented accommodation. Situated on a sought after development whilst briefly comprising, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen / dining room, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, luxury bathroom plus shower cubicle, large cretie-print driveway, garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £164,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Jevons Drive, Alexandra Park, Tipton

Modern 2.5 Storey End Town House offering immaculate / improved internal accommodation for which viewing is highly recommended. Having upvc double glazing, gas central heating, spacious family accommodation & briefly comprising, reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 double bedrooms, en suite shower room, re-fitted family bathroom, separate garage, tiny garden & landscaped attractive rear garden. FREEHOLD (PON COMPLETION - Subject to Terms & Conditions
OFFERS AROUND: £127,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Scott Street, Tipton

Modern Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Spacious family accommodation briefly comprises, reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, dining room, fitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, 5 bedrooms, 2 en suite shower rooms, family bathroom, driveway, garage & good size rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £249,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Forge Road, Wednesbury — NEW

- Presenting an Extended 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Ideally Located for Access to Darlaston Town Centre
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £89,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Stead Close, Burberry Grange, Tipton

- A Modern 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Reception Hall & Guest WC

OFFERS AROUND: £159,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Tame Crossing, Collegefields, Wednesbury — NEW

- A Modern 4 Bedroom Detached located on Corner Plot
- Gas Central Heating & UPVc Double Glazing
- Reception Hall & Guest WC
- Lounge & Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £239,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Hales Road, Wednesbury — NEW

- Well Presented 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double GLazing (as specified)
- Storm Porch & Reception Hall
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £135,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Woden Road North, Wednesbury — NEW

- Suprisingly Spacios 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Centrally Heated & Double Glazed (as specified)
- Excellent Local Amenities & Easy Access for M6
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £119,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

St Christopher Drive, Wednesbury

- Almost Brand New 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Presented to an Incrediubly High Standard
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing Throughout
- Reception Hall & Guest WC

OFFERS AROUND: £189,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Bassett Road, Wednesbury

- A Nicely Presented 3 Bedroom Mid Town House
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Reception Hall
- Lounge with Feature Fireplace

Viewing: 0121 505 3533 £78,950

Church Hill Court, Arundel Avenue, Wednesbury

- A Modern 2 Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Much Sought After Location
- Reception Hall

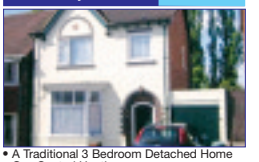
OFFERS AROUND: £102,500
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Laburnum Road, Wednesbury

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £104,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Oakeswell Street, Wednesbury — REDUCED



- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £163,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Chestnut Road, Golf Links, Wednesbury — REDUCED

- A Much Improved & Extended 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- Reception Hal & Guest WC

OFFERS AROUND: £164,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Carrington Road — NEW

- A 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace Home
- No Upward Chain!
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND £84,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Franchise Street, Wednesbury

- well Presented Mid Terrace
- 2 Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: £94,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Cobden Street — NEW

- A Suprisingly Spacious 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (as specified)
- Dining Room with 'Ornate' Cast Iron Fireplace

OFFERS AROUND £92,500
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Walnut Lane, Golf Links, Wednesbury

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Reception Hall
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Fitted KItchen

OFFERS AROUND: £114,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Constantine Way, Bridgefields, Bilston

- 4 Bedroom Modern Detached Home
- Double-glazing & Gas central heating (as specified)
- Reception Hall & Guest WC
- Lounge with Feature Fireplace

OFFERS AROUND: £189,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Crew Road — NEW

- Recently Refurbished 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain!
- Great Local Amenities & Easy Access for M6

OFFERS AROUND £105,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Callear Road, Wednesbury — NEW

- A Well Proportioned 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVc Double Glazing (as specified)
- No Upward Chain!

OFFERS AROUND: £94,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

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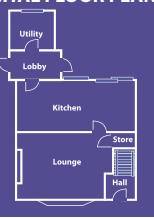

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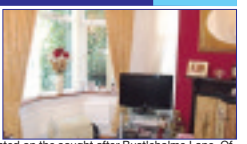
or email: westbromwich@pauldubberley.co.uk

Beaconsfield Street, West Bromwich, West Bromwich — NEW

A Good Size 3 Bedroom Semi Detached House within a popular cul de sac. Offering Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Guest Cloaks/ WC, Landing, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Large Rear Garden, Front Garden which offers potential of off road parking (curb not lowered).
OFFERS AROUND: £127,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich — NEW



A Delighyful Traditional Semi Detached House located on the sought after Bustleholme Lane, Offering No Upward Chain. Accommodation Comprises- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Refitted Shower Room/ WC, Good Size Rear Garden, Large Front Garden with Gated Off Road Parking.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £174,950

Ruskin Street, West Bromwich — NEW

A Well Presented Semi Detached House within quiet Cul De Sac. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accommodation Comprises- Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Refitted Kitchen/ Diner, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom/ WC and Large Gardens to Front & Rear.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £114,950

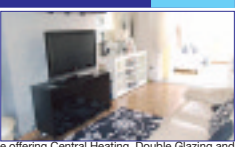
Overton Place, West Bromwich, West Bromwich — NEW

An immaculate first floor flat within the quiet development of Overton Place, benefiting from UPVc double Glazing & Gas Central Heating. Briefly comprising: Entrance Hall with stairs to first floor, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Re Fitted Bathroom & Communal Parking Area. Must Be Viewed.
OFFERS AROUND: £74,995
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Pennyhill Lane, West Bromwich — NEW

A Fully Modernised, Extended Tradiational Semi Detached House situated on the highly Popular Pennyhill Lane. No Upward Chain. Accomodation Coimprises- Porch, Hall, Extended Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen, Ground Floor Shower Room/ WC, Master Bedroom with Ensuite Shower Room/ WC, 3 Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom/ WC. Gardens to Front & Rear, Block Paved Driveway leading to Garage.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £234,950

Brandon Way, West Bromwich — NEW



An Attractive Double Fronted Semi Detached House offering Central Heating, Double Glazing and Intruder Alarm. Accomodation Comprises- Storm Porch, Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Open Plan Refitted Kitchen with Dining Area, Large Conservatory, Three Good Size Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom with Seperate WC, Good Size Gardens to Front & Rear and Parking within Car Park Area.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £137,500

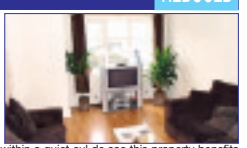
James Eaton Close, West Bromwich, West Midlands — REDUCED

A modern three bedroomed semi detached property benefitting from central heating, intruder alarm and no upward chain. The accomodation briefly comprises Reception Hall, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen/ Diner, Three Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom/ WC, Lawned Gardens to front & Rear and Side Driveway Off Road Parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,995
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Middlemore Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich — REDUCED

An extended Mid Terraced house with Ground Floor Wet Room/ WC. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Ground Floor Wet Room/ WC, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Sitting Room, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC and Gardens to Front & Rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Edwin Phillips Drive, West Bromwich — REDUCED



An Attractive Modern End Town House. Situated within a quiet cul de sac this property benefits from Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises- Entrance Hall with Guest Cloaks/ WC, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Master Bedroom with En Suit Shower Room/ WC, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear and Driveway Off Road Parking.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £129,950

Charlemont Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Delightful, Detached House pleasantly situated in this much sought after residential area. Upgraded throughout to high standard. Benefitting from double glazing, central heating and intruder alarm. Offering surprisingly spacious accomodation comprising - Storm Porch, Hall with Guests Cloaks/ WC, 23 ft Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, 18ft Refitted Kitchen, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Separate WC. Large Rear Garden, 2 Car tandem Garage and Driveway. Affording Off Road Parking for Several Cars.
OFFERS AROUND: £269,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Radnor Green, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Three Bedroom Semi Detached House within this popular residential area. Benefitting from Central Heating and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Verandah with WC and Brick Stores, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom with Separate WC, Gardens to Front and Rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Charlemont Avenue, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

An Attractive Traditional Semi Detached House situated within the highly regarded cul de sac of Charlemont Avenue. Benefitting From No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises- Integral Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Open Plan Kitchen & Dining Room, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Verandah, Large Rear Garden, Front Garden and Driveway Off Road Parking Leading to Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £155,000
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Rayford Drive, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Delightful Semi Detached House, situated within the popular Bustleholme Mill Estate. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises Porch, Lounge and Open Plan Kitchen/ Diner, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear, Driveway Off Road Parking Leading to Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £127,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Wood Lane, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Second Floor Modern Apartment with lift access. Based on a 75% shared ownership for the over 55's this property is the ideal retirement home offering spacious accomodation built to an excellent standard. Accomodation Comprises, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Master Bedroom with Ensuite Shower Room/ WC, 2nd Bedroom, Bathroom/ WC and Secure Car Parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £69,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

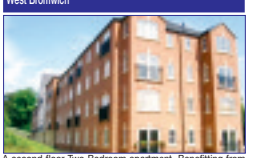
Willett Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Good Size Extended Semi Detached House with excellent location for local schools and amenities. Benefitting form Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen, Lobby with WC, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gardens to Front & Rear, Driveway Off Road Parking, Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Charlemont Avenue, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Delightful, Detached Bungalow with a quiet cul de sac position in this very popular residential area. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing, Intruder Alarm and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises Storm Porch, Hall, Extended Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom/ WC, Block paved Driveway (4 cars) Garage and Extensive Rear Garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £179,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Harrington Croft, West Bromwich, West Bromwich



A second floor Two Bedroom apartment. Benefitting from Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. The accomodation breifly comprises Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen , two bedrooms, bathroom/ WC, parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Canterbury Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

An Attractive Semi Detached House located conveniently for Stone Cross Shops, Schools and Amenities. Benefitting from Central Heating and Double Glazing and No Upward Chain Available. Accomodation Comprises, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom/ WC, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Gardens to Front & Rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £124,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Clifford Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Good Size Mid Terraced House. No Upward Chain. Benefitting form Central Heating and Majority Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom/ WC, Verandah, 3 Bedrooms, Gardens to Front & Rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Manorford Avenue, West Bromwich, West Midlands

A Good Size 3 Bedroom Semi Detached located within the Popular Bustleholme Mill Estate. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises, Hall, Through Lounge/ Diner, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear, Shared Off Road Parking to Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £119,500
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Leacroft Grove, Hill Top, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

An Attractive, centrally heated, double glazed, Semi Detached House. Storm Porch, Lounge, Recently refitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Covered Side Passageway, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC, Off road parking for small car and Garage for small car nearby. Viewing 0121 525 2111.
OFFERS AROUND: £116,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Turner Street, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A 2 Bedroom Mid Terraced House with Central Heating and Double Glazing. The Property Comprises:- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom/, Conservatory, 2 Bedrooms, master with En-Suite, Garage to rear, Gardens to Front and Rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £90,000
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Kelverley Grove, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

Situated in a popular area & convenient for the Railway Station this semi detached property benefits from central heating, double glazed & intruder alarm. Briefly comprising reception hall, open plan lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom/wc, off road parking for 2 cars, garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £144,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

St Valentines Close, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Spacious Extended, Four Bedroom Link Detached House located within a Quiet Cul De Sac. Benefitting form Central Heating & Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises- Porch, Hall with Guest Cloaks/ WC, 2 Reception Rooms, Conservatory, Kitchen, Master Bedroom with En Suite Shower Room, 3 Further Bedrooms, Shower Room/ WC, Gardens to Rear and Driveway Off Road Parking to Front.
OFFERS AROUND: £239,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Creed Way, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

Available with just a 5% deposit on the easystart scheme that lets you own 100% of the property for 85% of the price now. A Brand New 1st floor apartmentment on the newly built Central Square development. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises, Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom/ WC, 2 Bedrooms, Allocated Parking Space.
OFFERS AROUND: £79,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Witton Lane, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Good Size Double Fronted Mid Terraced House with No Upward Chain. Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises: Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Block Paved Front Garden and low maintenance Rear Garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £109,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Stanley Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

REDUCED !!!!! An Attractive Traditional Semi Detached House located in a quiet residential area. Benefitting from Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprising Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory with WC, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear, Driveway Off Road Parking and Garage with Rear Vehicle Access.
OFFERS AROUND: £154,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Greswold Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands

An Excellent Semi Detached House Extended on Two Floors to provide superb family accomodation including 5 Double Bedrooms. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and Intruder Alarm. Accomodation comprises; Porch, Hall with Guest Cloaks/ WC, Extended Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Fitted Kitchen, 2 Double Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom/ WC, Long Rear Garden with Decking Area and Garage to Rear with Rear Vehicle Access. Pleasant open aspect to the front.
OFFERS AROUND: £149,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Hall Green Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

A Larger Type Traditional Semi Detached House benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and Intruder Alarm. Accomodation Comprises; Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen, Large Utility Area, Drying room with WC, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Block Paved Off Road Parking to Front and Large Rear Garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £179,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Europa Avenue, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

An Attractive Detached Bungalow situated on a choice corner plot within the popular Sandwell Valley Estate. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Briefly Comprises, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear, Garage & Driveway. The property is close to J1 M5 and is within walking distance to Dartmouth Park.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,995
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

Andrew Road, West Bromwich, West Bromwich

An Attractive, Semi Detached House, situated in this popular residential area and convenient for the Railway Station. Centrally Heated, Double Glazed. Accomodation comprises Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Driveway Parking, Garage and Pleasant Rear Garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £136,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

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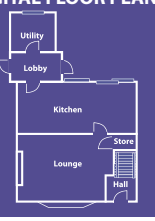

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28 Sutton Court, Ettingshall, Wolverhampton, West ..... £350.00 PCM
34 Camberley, Beaconveiw Road, West Bromwich, B71
2 bed 4th flr flat, dg ..... £350.00 PCM
43 Cumberland Road, Bilston, West Midlands, WV14 1
Bed Ground Floor Flat ..... £350.00 PCM
18 Salisbury House, Lily Street, West Bromwich, B71
Two Bed Ground Floor Flat ..... £375.00 PCM
25 Moxhull Gardens, Willenhall, West Midlands 2bed Terrace ..... £375.00 PCM
24 Briarley, Beaconview Road, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed 6th Flr Appt ..... £395.00 PCM
42 Chaucer Avenue, Willenhall, WV12 5JN 1 Bed Flat ..... £395.00 PCM
21a St Michaels Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands ..... £400.00 PCM
19 Jefferson Place, West Bromwich, B71 4EY
1 Bed Ground Floor Modern ..... £415.00 PCM
5 Warren Close, Tipton, West Mids, DY4 9PQ ..... £425.00 PCM
11 Trinity View Queen Street, Bilston, WV14 7ER
2 Bed 2nd Floor Apartment ..... £430.00 PCM
19 Trinity View Queen Street, Bilston, WV14 7ER
2 Bed Flat, Dg, Electric Heating ..... £430.00 PCM
15 The Avenue, Darlaston, Walsall, WEST MIDS, WS10 ..... £440.00 PCM
9 Short Street, Darlaston WS10 8BS Two Bed Mid Terraced ..... £450.00 PCM
Flat 7 Manor Flats, High Street, Sedgley, Dudley, West
2 bed First Floor Flat,dg,elec ..... £450.00 PCM
49 Sanders Crescent, Tipton, DY4 7NT
A Two Bedroom 2nd Floor ..... £450.00 PCM
78 Ashley Street, Bilston, West Midlands, WV4 7NN
2 Bed Terr, Gch,dg ..... £450.00 PCM
39 Albany Crescent, Bilston, WV14 0HT
2 Bed Semi With Office / Study ..... £450.00 PCM
16 Bell Street, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 8HZ 2 Bed Terrace ..... £475.00 PCM
26 Manifold Way, Charlemont Hall Park, Wednesbury,
New Two Bedroom, First Floor ..... £475.00 PCM
37 Princes Gate, Beeches Road, West Bromwich
Two Bed Modern Second Floor ..... £475.00 PCM
75 Ivy Road, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 9QN
Three Bed Mid Terraced, Ch ..... £475.00 PCM
29 Jefferson Place, West Bromwich, B71 4EY
A First Floor Appartment ..... £475.00 PCM
123 Highfield Road, Tipton, DY4 0QT Two Bedroom Furnished ..... £475.00 PCM
24 Ellison Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70
2 Bed Semi C/h, Part D/g ..... £475.00 PCM
29 Alexandra Crescent, West Bromwich, B71 3AG
3 Bed Semi Detached ..... £475.00 PCM
133 Wood Lane, West Bromwich 3 Bed Mid Terr, Fully Furnished ..... £475.00 PCM
363a Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton, WV1 2JR ..... £475.00 PCM
6 Star Close, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 7LP 2 Bed Semi ..... £495.00 PCM
12 Deansgate, Willenhall, WV13 3NH Brand New
2 Bed Apartment ..... £495.00 PCM
8 Talbot Place, Bilston, WV14 0HX ..... £495.00 PCM
24 Sheldon Avenue, Wednesbury, WS10 9DU
3 Bed Semi C/g D/g ..... £525.00 PCM
43 Crosswell Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B68 8HB
3 Bed Mid Terrace Ch/dg ..... £525.00 PCM
14 Sheridon Street, West Bromwich, B71 4EF
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced With ..... £525.00 PCM
Flat 2, 63-65 Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed Ground Floor Flat, Ch, Dg ..... £525.00 PCM
Flat 4, 63-65 Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed 1st Floor Flat, Ch, Dg ..... £525.00 PCM
178 Vicarage Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands
3 Bed Mid Terraced, CH/ DG ..... £525.00 PCM
86 Banners Street, Halesowen, Dudley, West Mids, B63 ..... £525.00 PCM
36 Anchor Drive, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 7RD
A Modern Three Bedroom Semi ..... £525.00 PCM
27 Edward Fisher Drive, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4
2 Bed End Town ..... £525.00 PCM
562 Willenhall Road, Willenhall, West Mids 4 Bed Semi ..... £525.00 PCM
5 John Fletcher Close, Wednesbury, West Midlands
2 Bed Ch Dg Semi ..... £550.00 PCM
65 Walsall Road, West Bromwich, B71 3HE
3 Bed End Terraced House ..... £550.00 PCM
185 Toll End Road, Tipton, WEST MIDS, DY4 0HF ..... £550.00 PCM
30 Welland Grove, Kingfisher, Willenhall, West Midlands
3 Bed Det ..... £550.00 PCM
27 Brook Street, West Bromwich, B70 9HL
3 Bedroom Extended Detached ..... £575.00 PCM
162 Hawksford Cresent, Low Hill, Wolverhampton, West ..... £575.00 PCM
45 Waite Road, Willenhall, WV13 3EZ 3 Bed Semi ..... £575.00 PCM
46 Ridding Lane, Wednesbury, West Midlands, WS10
3 Bed Terrace, C/h D/g ..... £650.00 PCM
15 Pepperbox Drive, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 8TR
4 Bed Det, Ch, Dg ..... £650.00 PCM
Plot 26 5, Farm End Close, West Bromwich, West
A Three Bedroom Modern Town ..... £650.00 PCM
53 Sanders Crescent, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 7NT
4 Bed Detached ..... £700.00 PCM
81 Edgbaston Road, Smethwick, Birmingham, B66 4LF ..... £795.00 PCM
6 Mathon Lodge Stockwell End, Tettenhall,
Two Bedroom Luxury ..... £800.00 PCM
73 Smithmore Crescent, West Bromwich, B71 3ES
6 Bed, Modern 3 Storey House ..... £895.00 PCM
2a Duke Street, Wednesfield, WV11 1TG Supported
Sheltered ..... £1141.00 PCM
376 Penn Road, Penn, Wolverhampton, West Mids, WV4
5 Bedroom Commercial ..... £2000.00 PCM

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FRIAR PARK ROAD, WS10 0TA

- A Semi Detached Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking

£119,995

HYDES ROAD, B71 2ED

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garage at Rear
- C/H, Majority D/G
- Hallway, Freehold

£169,995

SIDDONS WAY, B70 0RX

- An End Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- D/G & C/H
- Off Road Parking

£109,995

EDWIN PHILLIPS DRIVE, B71 2AZ

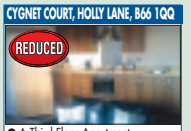
- A Two Bedroom Mid Terraced Property
- No Upward Chain
- Kitchen/Diner
- C/H & D/G

£117,500

ALDER CRESCENT, WS5 4LQ

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory/Sun Room
- C/H & D/G

£114,995

CYGNET COURT, HOLLY LANE, B66 1QQ


- A Third Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms,
- Electric Heating
- NHBC Warranty

£84,995

LINCOLN ROAD, B71 2JF

- A Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- C/H & D/G, Freehold
- Off Road Parking

£121,995

WARNER ROAD, WS10 0ET

- A Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- C/H & D/G
- Garage

£129,500

PENNYHILL LANE, B71 3RP

- A Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Fore & Rear Gardens, Freehold

£169,950

ALEXANDRA CRESCENT, B71 3AG

- A Mid Terraced House
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking

£135,000

WYNDMILL CRESCENT, B71 3QY

- A First Floor Maisonette
- One Bedroom
- Communal Parking
- D/G and C/H where specified

£59,950

HOPKINS DRIVE, B71 3RT

- A Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- No DSS, No Smoking, No Pets
- Credit/Reference Checks Required

£750 PCM £750 DEPOSIT

SUNNYDALE WALK, B71 1EU

- A Top Floor Maisonette
- Two Bedrooms, NO DSS
- Six Months Agreement
- Credit/Reference Check Required

£375 PCM £375 DEPOSIT

CAMBERLEY, B71 3PF

- A Two Bedroomed Flat
- Available Immediately
- 6 Months Agreement
- Credit/Reference Check required

£300 PCM £300 DEPOSIT

KINITHS WAY, B71 4DP

- Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking
- All Applicants Must Pass Credit Check

£575 PCM £575 DEPOSIT

132 WALSALL ROAD, STONE CROSS, WEST BROMWICH B71 3HP

DS

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NEW

MOAT ROAD, OLDBURY

Full internal inspection is highly recommended for this well presented modern semi detached residence situated in a very popular residential locality, it benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing and briefly comprises reception hall, fitted kitchen, rear lounge, two good sized bedrooms, well appointed bathroom, enclosed rear garden, allocated car parking space, freehold.

Offers based on: £112,500

Viewing: Oldbury Office

CROSS WALK, TIVIDALE

Situated close to the Birmingham Road this excellently presented semi detached bungalow offers good accommodation with the benefit of double glazing and electric storage heating. Internal inspection is highly recommended and briefly comprises reception hall, lounge with feature fireplace, kitchen, two bedrooms (one with fitted wardrobes), shower room, off street parking to front, garden to rear, freehold.

Offers based on: £108,000

Viewing: Oldbury Office

BROOKFIELDS ROAD, OLDBURY

Situated in an established residential neighbourhood, this semi-detached offers good accommodation, with double glazing and gas-fired central heating. Hall, front lounge, fitted dining kitchen, three bedrooms, well appointed bathroom, off-street parking to front, well tended gardens. Freehold.

Offers based on £119,950

Viewing: Oldbury Office

BIRCHFIELD LANE, OLDBURY

Situated in quiet neighbourhood close to Oldbury town centre, this well presented traditional mid villa residence offers good accommodation with benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing, full internal inspection is highly recommended and it briefly comprises two reception rooms, kitchen, two double bedrooms, first floor bathroom, gardens, freehold.

Offers based on £100,000

Viewing Oldbury Office

DEVEREUX ROAD, WEST BROMWICH

Forming an ideal first purchase, full internal inspection is highly recommended for this well planned spacious ground floor maisonette situated in area of similar type properties. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing and briefly comprises front lounge, inner hall, two good size bedrooms (one with fitted wardrobes), fitted kitchen, off street parking to front, private garden to rear.

Offers based on £89,000

Viewing: Oldbury Office

REDUCED

THE PINEWAYS, OLDBURY

Situated on a quiet residential development just off Newbury Lane, Oldbury, this well presented ground floor flat offers good accommodation and requires full internal inspection to be appreciated. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing and offers fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, two double bedrooms, bathroom, gardens, allocated parking.

Offers based on £79,950

Viewing: Oldbury Office

HARBORNE ROAD, BEARWOOD

Delightfully situated on high ground in this sought after neighbourhood and commanding truly impressive views over the surrounding areas, to both front and rear, a substantial traditional freehold semi detached residence offering excellent family accommodation with a host of original features and to include four double bedrooms, spacious well appointed bathroom with individual shower, reception hall, lounge, separate dining room, large dining/kitchen and established gardens, incorporating gas central heating, some double glazing and burglar alarm system, direct facing Warley Woods and being within easy reach of comprehensive day to day facilities to include easy access to Birmingham city centre.

Offers based on: £339,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office

BISHOPTON ROAD

Enjoying a much favoured residential location in this pleasant neighbourhood adjacent to Lightwoods Park, a traditional style freehold villa residence offering gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed accommodation to include three bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, kitchen with integrated oven/hob and garden to the rear, having the benefit of comprehensive day-to-day amenities close at hand to include easy access to Birmingham city centre.

£169,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office

DEVON ROAD

A well presented and most pleasantly situated traditional style freehold semi detached residence located in this ever popular established residential thoroughfare just a quarter of a mile or so from both Warley Woods and the main Hagley Road West in Bearwood, offering gas centrally heated and alarmed accommodation with a wealth of original features to include hall, dining room, spacious lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, three bedrooms, bathroom with electric shower unit, well maintained garden to the rear and having the benefit of off street parking, with original stripped pine panelled doors throughout and enjoying comprehensive day to day amenities close at hand to include easy access to Birmingham city centre, with internal inspection to be appreciated.

£210,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

47 HARBORNE ROAD

Recently erected and in a much sought after location and established residential thoroughfare close to Warley Woods, anf attractive freehold semi detached with gas centrally heated, double glazed and fully alarmed to include 30ft maximum master bedroom with en suite shower, three bedrooms, house bathroom, hall, downstairs cloakroom, lounge, dining/kitchen, built in garage and off street parking, mature garden, with day to day amenities close at hand including easy access to Birmingham city centre.

Offers based on £235,000

Viewing Bearwood Office

GREENFIELD ROAD

A freehold semi detached property located in this established neighbourhood being convenient for comprehensive day-to-day amenities, offering gas centrally heated accommodation to include three bedrooms, bathroom, hall, downstairs cloakroom, two reception rooms, kitchen, spacious garden to the rear and having the benefit of off street parking to the front, being in need of modernisation.

LEICESTER CLOSE

Occupying an extremely pleasant and established residential location in a development of similar private flats virtually adjacent to Warley Woods, a modern first floor flat offering double bedroom, refitted bathroom with electric shower unit, spacious lounge and refitted kitchen, standing in landscaped garden surrounds and having allocated off street parking, together with the benefit of excellent day to day amenities close at hand to include easy access to Birmingham city centre, with internal inspection to be appreciated.

£92,500

Viewing: Bearwood Office

PUBLIC AUCTION

AT THE PORTLAND
241 PORTLAND ROAD, EDGBASTON
BIRMINGHAM B17 8LS
ON MONDAY 28th MARCH 2011 at 6.30pm

Our next collective auction will include the following lots:

Lot 1: **59 LINDEN ROAD, BEARWOOD**
Freehold 3 bedroomed terraced needing full modernisation — **£65-70,000**

Lot 2: **42 HAMILTON ROAD, BEARWOOD**
Freehold 3 bedroomed semi-detached needing general improvement — **£75-80,000**

Lot 3: **39 GLADYS ROAD, BEARWOOD**
Freehold double glazed and centrally heated 2 bedroomed terraced — **£80-85,000**

Lot 4: **59 THE GROVE, WALSALL**
Freehold 3 bedroomed semi in need of improvement — **£circa 75,000**

Lot 5: **89 SELWYN ROAD, EDGBASTON**
Freehold fully modernised centrally heated 5 bedroomed semi — **£250-260,000**

Lot 6: **3 BOROUGH CRESCENT, OLDBURY**
Freehold 3 bedroomed centrally heated and extended semi-detached — **£80-85,000**

Lot 7: **499 HAGLEY ROAD, BEARWOOD**
Freehold office/residential premises with self-contained 2 bedroomed apartment — **£165-175,000**

Lot 8: **10 OAK STREET, QUARRY BANK**
Freehold detached 6 bedroomed property — **£circa 80,000**

Lot 9: **65 WHITE ROAD, SMETHWICK**
Freehold 3 bedroomed end terrace with central heating and double glazing — **£circa 85,000**

Lot 10: **126 WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD**
Freehold 3 bedroomed villa in need of upgrading — **£80-90,000**

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Derek Spires Estate Agents
Tel: 0121 420 4646

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TIVIDALE

GLENEAGLES DRIVE

Offers in the region of £179,950

A modern detached bungalow situated in a quiet cul-de-sac location. uPVC front entrance door, reception hall with stores off, lounge, modern kitchen, inner hallway with stores off, two bedrooms, bathroom, conservatory leading from second bedroom, central heating, double glazing, off road parking and gardens

TIVIDALE

ASHTREE ROAD

Offers in the region of £124,950

A link detached bungalow offering ideal retirement accommodation. Storm porch entrance into reception hall with stores off, lounge, kitchen, veranda, utility area and side garage, two bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath, central heating and double glazing where specified, off road parking, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

Offers in the region of £114,950

A deceptively spacious mid town house. uPVC entrance door to reception hall, through lounge divided into lounge and dining area doors to Galley style kitchen including with conservatory leading off. Staircase from hall to first floor landing, three bedrooms, shower room, double glazing, central heating where specified, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

OAKDALE ROAD

Offers in the region of £104,950

An end town house requiring some improvement uPVC entrance door, reception hall understairs storage area, lounge and dining room, kitchen. Staircase from reception hall to fist floor landing lead three bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath and seperate W.C., gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens

TIPTON

WRENS AVENUE

Offers in the region of £215,000

A detached property situated in a quiet but convenient location requiring some updating and improvement, porch entrance into reception hall stores off, two reception rooms both with feature fireplaces, kitchen, conservatory, garage to side. Staircase from hall to three bedrooms, bathroom, central heating and double glazing where specified, off road parking, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

POOL LANE

Offers in the region of £189,950

A detached bungalow having side substantial off road parking to side offering ideal caravan storage, storm porch entrance into L shaped reception hall, kitchen utility area off, lounge conservatory off, three bedrooms, bathroom with jacuzzi bath and seperate shower cubicle, gas fired central heating, uPVC double glazing, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

GRAFTON ROAD

Offers in the region of £124,950

A traditional semi detached property requiring some improvement. Storm porch entrance, reception hall, through lounge with veranda at rear, kitchen. Staircase from reception hall to first floor landing, three bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath, central heating where specified, part double glazing, garage to rear, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Offers in the region of £124,950

A fully modernised and extended mid townhouse o benefiting loft conversion providing additional bedroom space Storm porch entrance, lounge feature fireplace doors to kitchen archway to conservatory. Staircase to first floor landing, two bedrooms and bathroom. Staircase to loft conversion including fitted wardrobes central heating and double glazing where specified, off road parking, rear garden

OLDBURY

OLDACRE ROAD

Offers in the region of £120,000

A deceptively spacious mid townhouse offering well planned and maintained accommodation within the catchment area of Perryfields High School Porch entrance hall, lounge with feature fireplace, dinning kitchen, staircase extending from hall into first floor landing off which lead three bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath, central heating, double glazed where specified, off road parking garden to rear

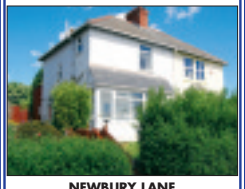
OLDBURY

MALLARD DRIVE

Offers in the region of £105,000

A mid town house situated on a popular sought after development offering ideal accommodation for first purchase. Front entrance with canopy over, reception hall, lounge, kitchen. Staircase to two bedrooms (master bedroom with fitted wardrobe) bathroom shower over bath, central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens, allocated car parking space

OLDBURY



NEWBURY LANE

Offers in execss of £100,000

A semi detached property requiring some improvement and modernisation. Storm porch entrance into reception hall, lounge with feature fireplace, dining kitchen. Staircase to first floor landing off which lead three bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing and central heating where specified, front and rear gardens, rear vehicular gated parking off Wallace Road

OLDBURY

CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

Offers in the region of £95,995

A well presented, maintained and improved mid terraced property situated in a convenient location with off road parking situated to the rear comprising storm porch entrance into front room, inner hallway, rear sitting room, archway to modern kitchen. Staircase to landing, two bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, double glazing, central heating, front and easily maintained rear garden

OLDBURY

PENNCRICKET LANE

Offers in the region of £95,000

A fully modernised and refurbished end terraced property having rear off road car parking facility uPVC door into front room feature fireplace, inner hallway stores off, rear sitting room feature fireplace, kitchen. Staircase to landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing and central heating, rear yard, garden and off road parking facility through shared access to side

OLDBURY

WATERWAYS DRIVE

Offers in the region of £93,995

A modern well presented end town house situated within the poplar Waterways Development constructed by Harper Homes offering ideal accommodation for first purchase Canopy entrance into reception hall, kitchen, lounge. Staircase from hall to first floor landing, cupboard off, two bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath, central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens and allocated car parking space

TIVIDALE

ASHTREE ROAD

Offers in the region of £79,950

A Two storey maisonette flat situated above shop premises offering excellent rental investment opportunity, communal staircase and landing, entrance door to reception hall, kitchen, lounge having feature fireplace and balcony off, staircase to, three bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, double glazed and centrally heated where specified, garage and communal yard

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Residential Lettings

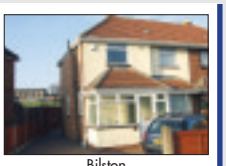
Tipton
Mansion Drive
★Modern four bed detached house
★Lounge with separate dining room
★Downstairs WC.
Separate utility room
★Master bedroom ensuite with shower
★Rear garden
★Driveway & garage
£675 pcm

Dudley
Madison Avenue
★Three bed town house
★Popular Merry Hill Centre location
★Lounge, fully fitted kitchen
★Downstairs WC.
★Master bedroom is ensuite
£575 pcm

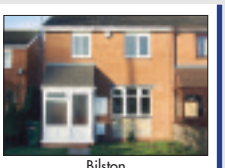
Bilston
Anvil Crescent
★Freshly decorated three bed semi detached house
★GCH & DG. ORP
★Newly fitted carpets
★Hall, lounge and dining room.
★Fitted kitchen. Bathroom with shower
★Enclosed rear gardens
£550 pcm

Bilston
Highfields Drive
★Two bed semi detached bungalow
★GCH & DG
★Fully fitted kitchen with appliances
★Utility room
★Rear garden & ORP
£550 pcm

Netherton
Purlin Wharf
★Modern two bed ground floor apartment
★Intercom security. GCH & DG
★Fully fitted kitchen.
★Lounge with patio doors
★Master bedroom ensuite with shower
★ORP. Scenic canal side location
£545 pcm



Bilston
Leighton Road
★Extended well presented three bed semi
★Hall, downstairs cloakroom with shower
★Lounge, dining room & utility/study
★Luxury refitted bathroom
★CH & DG
★Neat easy maintenance garden
£525 pcm



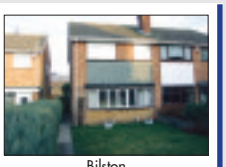
Bilston
Langdale Drive
★Three bed semi detached house.
★Cul-de-sac location
★Hall, lounge & cloakroom
★Dining kitchen.
★Bathroom with shower & bath
★Landscaped gardens front & rear
£500 pcm

Netherton
Cradley Road
★ Two bed end of terrace
★ Gas central heated & double glazed
★ Spacious lounge ★ separate dining room
★ Fully fitted kitchen
★ Bathroom with corner bath & shower cubicle
★ Feature loft area & enclosed rear garden
£500 pcm

Pensnett
Byrchen Moor Gardens
★Two bed semi detached house
★Fully fitted kitchen
★Bathroom with bath & separate shower
★Proved rear garden. ORP
★Viewing Highly Recommended
£495 pcm

Netherton
Weavers Rise

★Two bed mid terraced house
★Living room & fully fitted kitchen
★Bathroom with bath & shower
★Rear garden with shed
★Off road parking for two cars
★Viewing Highly Recommended
£495 pcm



Bilston
Kemsey Drive
★Three bed semi detached house
★Quiet cul-de-sac location
★Hall, lounge & dining kitchen
★Bathroom
★CH & DG
★Garage & private gardens
£495 pcm

Dudley
Sycamore Green
★ Three bed semi detached house
★ Gas central heated
★ Entrance hall, lounge & fitted dining kitchen
★ Bathroom with separate WC
★ Front and rear gardens
£480 pcm

Tipton
Leveson Drive
★Modern mid terrace property
★Fitted kitchen/diner with cooker
★Two bedrooms
★ Bathroom with bath & shower
★Off road parking
★Front and rear garden
£475 pcm

Wednesbury
Curtin Drive
★Three bed end terraced house
★Reception hall, lounge
★Fitted kitchen with cooker
★Separate dining room
★Rehitted bathroom
★Private enclosed rear garden & ORP
£450 pcm

Tipton
Bedford Street
★Two bed ground floor apartment
★Hall, lounge.
★Fully fitted kitchen.
★Bathroom with bath & shower
★DG
★ORP
£425 pcm

Sedgley
Roper Walk
★Modern ground floor maisonette
★Hall, lounge & fitted kitchen with appliances
★Luxury tiled bathroom with shower
★Large double bedroom
★GCH & DG. Allocated & visitor parking
£425 pcm

Tipton
Ferguson Drive
★One bed coach house apartment
★Fully fitted kitchen
★Bathroom with bath & shower
★Loft area for light good storage
★Communal parking
£385 pcm

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TOYOTA VERSO-S

Toyota courts 'empty nesters'

YOU are unlikely to see any 'Saga' drivers trying out their new Verso-S on the local race track – but that is not to say this new mini-MPV is unworthy of the Toyota badge.

Between 1999 and 2006 Toyota sold more than 150,000 of the Yaris Verso in Europe, but then dropped the model.

Since then the increasing number of affluent 'Saga' empty nesters wanting a car that offered high seating, easy entry and egress in a well-built, comfortable and reliable car have had to look elsewhere

So the market has been filled by a number of other makes including the Honda Jazz, Nissan Note, Kia Venga and Hyundai ix20.

But now Toyota has bounced back into the market, and is even offering the Verso-S at a special introdu ctory price for the next six months. The new model is based on the latest version of the Yaris, but is being built in Japan rather than France.

There are just two models to choose from, both with the same 1.3 litre 98PS petrol engine delivering only 125NM torque. So it is hardly going to win any acceleration races and needs all six ratios of its six speed manual gearbox, or if you prefer it, the automatic CVT-7 version, to make rea-sonable progress.

In the CVT version you can just put the car in Drive and let it choose its own ratios, although I did find this version noisier than the manual. Surprisingly, it is more economical than the manual version.

However another advantage of this version is that it is the only automatic MPV of this size to fall into the £30 a year tax bracket – the manual is £90 a year to tax.

The car offers five comfortable fully belted seats, split rear seats that fold with just one touch, a lipless rear sill with between 393 and 336 litre of load space (more than enough for the weekly shopping trip or weekend away).

There are two trim models to choose from – the TR and the T-Spirit. The T-Spirit has even more bootspace because instead of a space saver spare it has a tyre repair kit and that makes 429 litres of space. This is because the T-Spirit comes with a super glass panoramic roof that stretches from front to rear of the car. But it is heavier than a metal roof. So to compensate Toyota dropped the spare wheel. You can always buy the spare wheel as an extra and that will not increase the car tax.

The Verso S is cheap to run, easy to drive and comfortable – but no diesels are on offer. It is wel mequipped in both forms and has bags of room for the shopping

Central locking

Both models are well equipped – all have height adjustable seats, adjustable steering wheel, lots of airbags, ABS with EBD and Brake Assist, reversing camera, electric front windows, six speaker RDS radio/CD/MP3 player, manual air conditioning, remote central locking and front fog lamps.

Panoramic

The T-Spirit version gains alloy wheels, all-round electric windows, the panoramic roof and rear privacy glass.

There is also a touch screen Bluetooth information and entertainment system that doubles up for the reversing camera. And from May this year this can be boosted for £500 to become a full scale sat nav system. It will then have access to the Google local search system when used with a compatible smartphone.

Although there is a diesel version it will not be offered in the UK because Toyota GB argues that low mileage drivers will not find it cost effective to spend an extra £1,000-plus for the diesel engine. The diesel engine also does not like repeated short runs.

Toyota expects to sell around 30,000 a year in Europe and about 3,000 in the UK. Virtually all will go to retail customers, and it expects the majority of older drivers to plump for the CVT version.

Prices start from £14,645 for the TR manual, (reduced to £13,995 for six months) and £15,745 for the T-Spirit manual (reduced to £14,995) The CVT versions add £1,150. On the road the car is easy to drive, ride quality and comfort are good and there are no squeaks or rattles.

In the standard TR version you get a lot of equipment that is not offered by the lower priced competitors, and also lower tax bands. The car also comes with the five year Toyota warranty. It is graded 8E for insurance

Fact file

Price: TR Manual: £14,645 (reduced to £13,995) T-Spirit, £15,745 (reduced to £14,995). CVT: add £1,150.

Length: 3,990mm.

Economy: Manual: 51.4 mpg, CVT: 54.3 (combined average)

Acceleration: 0-62mph, Manual 13.3 secs, CVT: 13.7 secs.

Top Speed: 106mph

By Brian Vertigen

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08 Reg	CITROEN C4 PICASSO 1.6 HDi VTR Plus (Diesel) Auto. Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 59,000 miles	£7995
08 Reg	MINI COOPER CLUBMAN 1.6 D ESTATE (Diesel) White, Alloys, CD, AC, 25,000 miles	£11495
57 Reg	VW PASSAT 2.0 TDi SE AUTO ESTATE (Diesel) Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 53,000 miles	£9995
57 Reg	BMW 118D M SPORT 3-dr, (Diesel) Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, Half Leather, 45,000 miles	£11995
57 Reg	RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE (Diesel). Metallic Gold, Alloys, CD, AC, 13k	£7495
57 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi CLUB (Diesel). Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 61,000 miles	£6495
57 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5-dr. Grey, CD, AC, Cruise Control, 32,000 miles	£5495
57 Reg	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 HDi TDS 3-dr. (Diesel) Metallic Blue, AC, CD, 45,000 miles	£5995
57 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTi CLUB (Diesel). Silver, CD, AC, £30 Per Year Road Tax, 17,000 miles	£7495
57 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 3-dr. Metallic Blue, Alloys, Grey, Alloys, CD, AC, Half Leather, 78,000 miles	£5295
07 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi DESIGN ESTATE (Diesel), Metallic Grey, Alloys, CD, AC, Half Leather, 78,000 miles	£5495
07 Reg	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB AUTO 3-door. Gold Metallic, AC, CD, EW, 15,000 miles	£5495
56 Reg	VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 SRi CDTi (150) (Diesel) Black, Alloys, CD, AC, 46,000 miles	£6495
56 Reg	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi CLUB (Diesel) 5-dr, Silver, AC, CD, 70,000 miles	£5495
06 Reg	HONDA CIVIC 2.2 CDTi Ex (Diesel) Silver, CD, AC, Sat Nav, 18in Alloys, 68,000 miles	£8495
06 Reg	SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.9 DDiS 5-dr (Diesel) Metallic Grey, Alloys, CD, AC, 43,000 miles	£9495
06 Reg	AUDI A6 2.0 TDi S-LINE ESTATE (Diesel) Metallic Grey, Alloys, CD, AC, 1/2 Leather, 70,000 miles	£11995
06 Reg	HONDA CIVIC 2.2 CDTi Ex (Diesel) Bronze, Alloys, CD, AC, Sat Nav, 81,000 miles	£7695
55 Reg	VW GOLF 2.0T GTi 3-dr. Black, Alloys, CD, AC, 49,000 miles	£10495
54 Reg	HYUNDAI COUPE 2.0 SE Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, Full Leather	£4995
54 Reg	ALFA ROMEO GT 1.9 JTD (Diesel). Metallic Blue, Alloys, CD, AC, Full Leather	£6495
04 Reg	MAZDA MX5 1.6 EUPHONIC Black, Alloys, CD, Full Red & Black Leather, 44,000 miles	£5995
53 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.9 DCi DYNAMIQUE ESTATE (Diesel) Metallic Blue, Alloys, CD, AC, 69,000 miles	£3995
03 Reg	MITSUBISHI SHOGUN 3.5 V6 ELEGANCE GDi LWB Auto Blue/Silver, Alloys, CD, 64,000 miles	£7995
52 Reg	JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.5 V6 SPORT Met Red, Alloys, CD, AC, Full Leather, 94,000 miles	£4495
51 Reg	BMW Z3 1.9 Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 90,000 miles	£4995

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02 Reg	TOYOTA YARIS 1.5 VVTi SPORT CAT C 53,000 miles	£2295
Y Reg	ROVER 75 2.5 CLUB AUTOMATIC previously sold by us	£2295
51 Reg	ROVER 75 2.0 CDT CLUB AUTOMATIC DIESEL Lovely clean car, BMW engine	SOLD
02 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX 5-dr. Silver, very clean car	SOLD
52 Reg	PEUGEOT 307 1.6 SE SW ESTATE Black, low miles	£2995
N Reg	LANDROVER DISCOVERY 2.5 TDi. DIESEL 7 SEATER	£2995
52 Reg	SEAT IBIZA 1.4 SE. 3-dr, Shiny Black	£2995
04 Reg	FORD KA 1.3 STYLE 3-dr. Silver colour coded, 40,000 miles	£2995
51 Reg	MITSUBISHI PAJERO/PINNIN 2.0 GDi 4X4 AUTOMATIC	£2995
51 Reg	VAUXHALL OMEGA MV6 SALOON AUTOMATIC Silver. The ultimate Omega	£2995
03 Reg	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX Metallic Blue, 66,000 miles. Previously sold by us	£3295
02 Reg	MG TF 135bhp Silver SPORTS CONVERTIBLE LEATHER low miles	£3495
52 Reg	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.6 VVTi T2. Silver, 5-dr.	SOLD
08 Reg	CHEVROLET MATIZ 1.0 SE+ 5-dr. Silver, 26,000 miles	£3995
53 Reg	RENAULT CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE. 5-dr, Black, 44,000 miles	£3495
05 Reg	RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 EXPRESSION 5-dr. Silver	£3995
03 Reg	PEUGEOT 206cc CONVERTIBLE Black	£3995
04 Reg	FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. Metallic Silver, full service history	£3995
02 Reg	PEUGEOT 206cc 1.6 CONVERTIBLE Silver	£3995
53 Reg	TOYOTA AVENSIS 1.8 T2 5-dr. FSH, Metallic Red. Lovely	£3995
03 Reg	HYUNDAI TRAJET 2.0 Turbo DIESEL 7 SEATER	£3995
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Renault set to unveil seven vehicles at NEC

The Kangoo Maxi Van ZE is one of seven new vehicles Renault will be unveiling at the CV Show

RENAULT will unveil no fewer than seven new vehicles at this year's CV Show at the NEC in Birmingham, including the fully-electric Kangoo Van Zero Emission (ZE).

Following on from last year's record UK LCV sales, Renault will have one of the largest presences at this year's event, with a stand more than twice the size of last year's at 915m^2.

Taking pride of place in its 14-strong vehicle display, will be Renault's 100 per cent electric Kangoo Van ZE.

Unsurprisingly, against a backdrop of ever-increasing fuel prices, Renault is expecting the largest draw on its stand to be its new Kangoo, which aims to prove that electric LCVs can be affordable to run, good to drive, as well as offer a more relaxed driving environment, due to its near silent operation.

The French brand's compact vans will be available from autumn this year in both two and five-seat versions.

Kangoo ZE vans are priced at £16,990 for the van, £17,990 (longer wheelbase two-seat Maxi) and £18,690 (five-seat Maxi) excluding VAT, plus £59 monthly battery lease over four years/9,000 miles per year.

Limelight

Sharing the limelight with their sibling, and emphasising the growth of Renault's fully renewed LCV range ahead of their UK launches in the second quarter of 2011, will be several new additions to the Master range. Four factory-built products – Box Van, Dropside, Tipper and 17-seat minibus, plus two locally converted products – Luton Van and Curtainside.

Fleet and commercial vehicle operations director, Darren Payne, said: "We've made no bones about our ambitious plans to increase our share of the UK conversions market to eight per cent in the months ahead.

"Our wealth of new models on show underlines that message, and I'm equally pleased to be showing Kangoo Van ZE, the first affordable factory-built electric van in the UK.

"We truly believe we have something for everyone and I'm genuinely looking forward to seeing customer reactions to our expanded range in a few weeks time."

Renault will be based in Hall 5 at the show.

Lessen pain at the pumps by saving on your fuel bills

MOTORING experts Haynes are offering advice to drivers for cutting fuel consumption, as the crisis in the Middle East pushes fuel prices to a record high.

With the price at the pump hitting an average of over 132p a litre for unleaded (137.9p per litre for diesel), motorists are being hit hard by the current uncertainty in many oil producing countries.

Matthew Minter, Motor Trade Editorial Director at Haynes Publishing, said: "We're all taking a deep breath as we pull up at the pump these days.

"But with careful driving and preparation you can save fuel, and make a little get you a long way.

"Check your tyre pressures next time you fill up. Under-inflated tyres increase fuel consumption and wear out faster.

"Slow down – stick to speed limits, especially on the motorway, and save both on fuel and on speeding tickets. Drive smoothly and avoid fierce acceleration and hard braking.

"Remove roof racks and boxes when you don't need them, even empty they can increase drag and therefore fuel consumption. Remove heavy items from the boot, too.

"Finally, remember that a well-maintained vehicle uses less fuel."

Haynes top tips for saving petrol:

Slow down. Stick to the legal speed limits and see how much you save! You can save even more at lower speeds, driving at 50 mph instead of 70 can cut your fuel bill by 30 per cent. Driving on the motorway at 70mph instead of 80 to 85 can save up to 4p a mile in small cars.

Check your tyre pressures. Under-inflated tyres can cost you eight per cent more fuel and they'l wear out faster too.

Drive smoothly and consistently. Fierce acceleration and harsh braking cost money. You'll save wear and tear on brakes, tyres and suspension.

Turn off the air conditioning — and the heated rear window when they're not needed as the engine has to work harder to power them.

Have your car serviced regularly. A well-maintained engine is more efficient and less polluting.

For more information and other tips visit www.haynes.co.uk.

Haynes car manuals cost £19.99 (RRP) and are available from all good car accessory retailers and bookshops including Halfords and Motor World.

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7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Price correct at time and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is MY11 1.2 Picanto 1 at £6,870 On The Road (OTR) including £1,500 trade-in allowance. OTR includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic / mica paint is available at £495 charge. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 January and 31 March 2011. 7 year switch offer excludes Pro range. Offer is not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms and conditions apply - please see your local dealer for full details.

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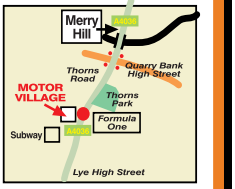

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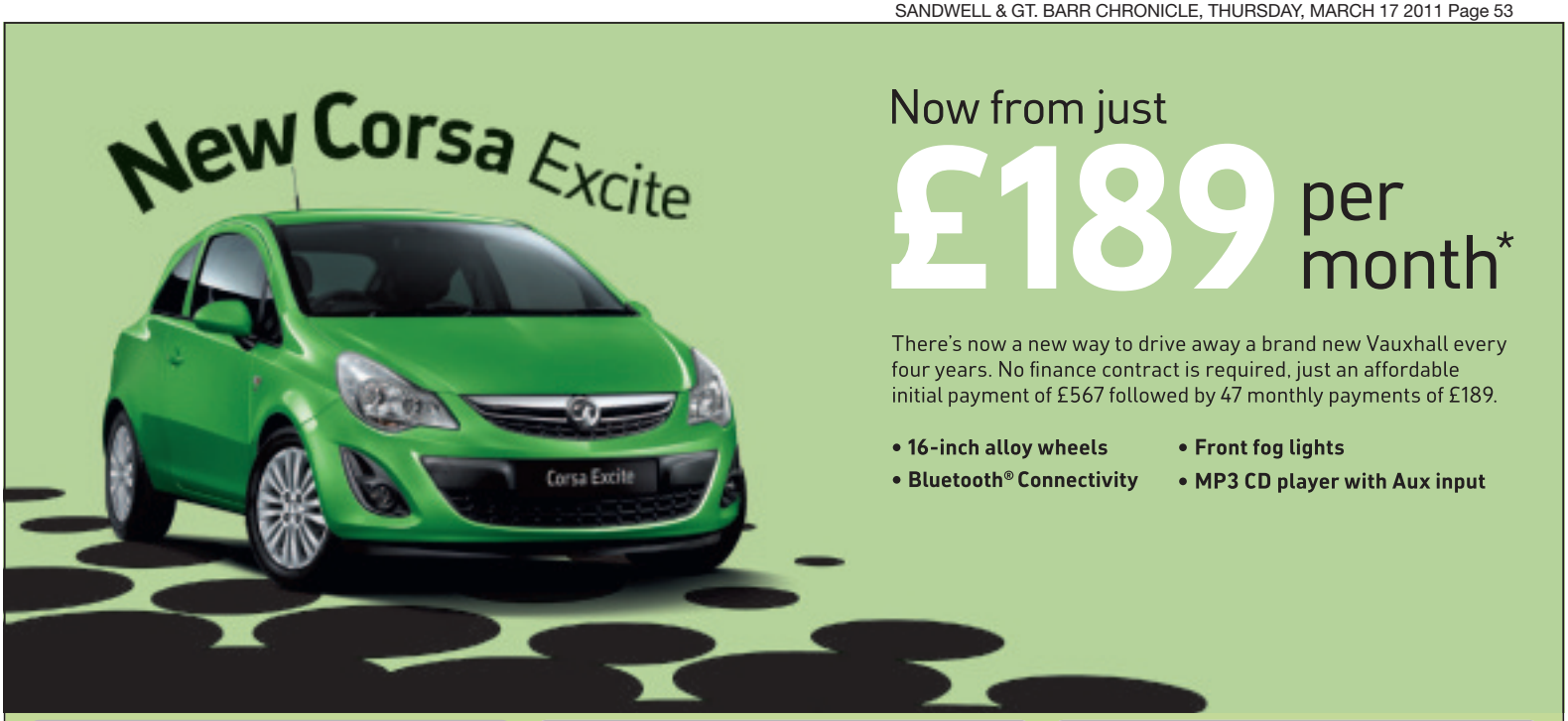

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*Offer available to individuals for orders received between 01.02.11 and 31.03.11. Figures based on a non-maintenance contract hire package over 48 months and 6,000 miles per year (max). An advance rental of £567 is payable, then 47 monthly rentals of £189. Rentals and excess charges are based on the current VAT rate. An excess charge of up to 6.38 ppm will be applied for mileage in excess of 6,000 mile p.a. Excess charges also apply if the car is not serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and returned to Vauxhall Leasing in a condition commensurate with the BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Package includes R.F.L. and Vauxhall Assistance. Offer subject to availability and status. UK supplied vehicles only. For full specification, details, terms and conditions contact your local retailer. Guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Details correct at time of publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Personal contract hire by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Vauxhall Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. Offers are available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks.

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07551 257443

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01746 764219.

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Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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cars over £1500

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CITROEN C2, (04), met blue, 30,000 miles, as new condition, low insurance. £3,495. 01543 579587 / 07974 256690.

FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE
2005(55), 47,000 miles, red, air con, fsh, long MoT, one owner, tax, CD.
£4,250.
01952 825047.

FORD FUSION 3, 16v, 2004, alloy wheels, taxed/MoT full year, 2012. £2,350. 0795 2544272.

FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE
2007, 22k, blue, abs, e/w, air bag, e/m, a/c, fsh, long MoT, central locking, pas, diesel, tax, alloys, stereo, CD, spots.
£5,999.
07505 616412.

FORD KA 1.3 style, 52 reg., 60,000 miles, MoT, tax, lady owner, burgandy red, good condition. £1,595 ono. 07906 355584.

Quality

JAGUAR X TYPE
V6 2004, private reg included in sale, 61,000 miles, blue, MoT Feb 20, 2012, tax Aug 2011, petrol, FSH, excellent condition.
£3,800 ono
07983 432997

MAZDA 6 2.0SD 04 Reg, silver, 11 months MOT, tax April, SH, CL, EW, 105K. £2,500 ono. 0121 544 9634.

MAZDA MX5 W regn, 90K, met. green, alloys, new MoT, nice condition. £3,495 ono. 01785 214696 / 07957 797060

MGF 1.8i CONVERTIBLE 2000 reg, EW, CL, soft and hard top, MoT / Tax June. £1,700. 01922 614364 or 07776 145295.

MGZR 05, 2dr, Cat C, 12 months MoT, very good condition, 35,000 miles, £2,295 ono, part ex welcome. 01543 320320.

PEUGEOT 1007 Dolce 1.4, 2007, 4 months tax and MoT, 40k, very good condition, £2,600. 07578 022476 or 0121 544 3784.

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1.6 diesel, 2009, metallic grey, f.s.h. panoramic roof, 15k miles, tax, immaculate throughout.
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01543 275024.

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07970 101732.

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£3,600 ono.
07866 643398.

RENAULT MEGANE 2003, Expression 16V, 11 months MoT, tax April, 67,000 miles, excellent. £2,200 ono 07971 687895.

RENAULT MEGANE 55 plate, 6 months tax and MoT, FSH, 38,000 miles, £3,450 ono. 01902 632193 or 07759 724792.

RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC
2005, 35k, red, e/w, e/m, air con, fsh, alarm, auto, met paint, pas, tax, alloys, CD, petrol, MoT Aug 31.
£3,000 ono.
0121 3592623.

RENAULT SCENIC
05, 62k, Diesel, service history, e/w, e/m a/c, Auto lights/wipers/handbrake, silver, long Tax and MoT.
£3,350.
07770 850580.

RENAULT SCENIC Expression 1.6, 16v, 2002, MoT, tax, LPG, very good condition, abs, a/c, electrics, CD, s/h, 2 owners, £2,250 ono. 01952 612248.

SKODA OCTAVIA 1.9 TDi, Elegance, 2007 reg, 1 owner, 40,000, non smoker, as new, MoT/tax. £4,100. 07855 484234.

SUZUKI ALTO
2009, 16,255 miles, black, abs, air con, fsh, one owner, road tax only £20, Manufactures Warranty, economical, excellent condition.
£4,999.
01384 861669.

SUZUKI GRAND Vitara, 2002, 1995cc, Silver, 41,000 genuine miles, MoT Taxed to Oct 11. Many extras. £3,500 ono. 01785 604029

TOYOTA hilux 2002, 139,000 alarm, new tyres, truckman top, load liner, cd/radio, MoT, taxed, good condition , green, dbl cab, £4,995 ono. 07875 102867

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 Design, 04 reg, Blue, tax, MoT, A/C, C/L, good condition. £2,200. 01922 413705.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4SXi
2007(57), 27,000 miles, 3 months tax, 7 months MoT, CL, EW, AC, alloys, excellent condition.
£6,200 ono.
01922 644909 / 07527 564199.

VAUXHALL CORSA, 2002 (52), 45k miles, silver, air bag, fsh, MoT, metallic paint, one lady owner, pas, CD, petrol, abs, £1,700 ono. 07875 492203.

★ **VAUXHALL CORSA**, low miles (14,900), silver, auto, 1 owner, tax, MoT, fsh, excellent, £2,700 ono. 01562 710701.

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£6,500.
07889 725095.

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cars under £1500

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FIAT PUNTO 1.2 1998, 82k, 6 months tax, 11 months MoT, £675 ono. 07930 870239

FIAT STILO 1.2, 16V, 6 speed box, tax April, MoT May, 02 model, radio cassette. £895 ono. 01922 440205.

FORD FIESTA, 1998, R reg, 1299cc, Encore, 61,000 miles, petrol, dark blue, 10 months MoT and tax, good condition, £600 ono. 07946 425260.

FORD FIESTA, T reg, MoT / Tax till May. Good condition. Good runner. Clean and tidy. £585. o.n.o. 0121 556 7185/07947 908317.

FORD FOCUS
1999, 49,000 miles, blue, electric windows, air con, CD player, central locking, MoT and tax end of June, good condition
£1,100 ono.
01785 213041.

FORD FOCUS 2L Ghia, X reg, full MoT, blue, 80,000 miles. £1,000 ono. Contact 01922 753018 or 07892 462764.

FORD MONDEO, hatchback, LX, 02, 63k, grey, tax July, MOT Oct, new cat and tyres, clean, good condition, very reliable car, £1,075 ono. 01543 302710.

MERCEDES A160 Avantgarde, ACS (clutchless), 2001, 45,000 miles, 3 months tax and MoT, alloys, ½ leather seats, £1,499 ono. 07825 412530.

MERCEDES E200 ESTATE, 1994, fair condition, MoT Jan 2012, tow bar, boot cover, £800 ono, 07502 023570.

NISSAN ALMERIA 1.5, 3dr hatch, petrol, blue, 51 reg, 9 months MoT, 3 months tax, good condition. £1,000. 01922 683182.

NISSAN MICRA, 1998, 50,000 miles, red, MoT, tax, very good condition, new battery, any test welcome. £750. 01952 432855.

PEUGEOT 307 1.4 STYLE
6 months MoT, tax July, 47,000 miles, service history, met red.
Bargain £1,495.
07912 101166.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Authentique, 51 plate, 2002, metallic blue, 32,000 miles, full service, MoT Jan 2012, tax July 2011, £1,195 ono. 0121 5259868.

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For application pack and full job description please contact 0121 558 5555 quoting re MA.
This advert complies with S7(2B) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. Closing date March 21.

FEMALE PA'S REQUIRED on a casual/back up basis for a lady with Cerebral Palsy and 5 year old child, based in Smethwick. Rates of pay £7.04 - £9.39 per hour Car driver essential. Will be CRB checked.
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Please contact Stuart Higgins, 0121 557 3649.

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what our customers say...

"My husband and I were struggling with money. Life was becoming difficult, we didn't want to move but we couldn't afford our home any longer. One call to you was all it took, within days we had a representative visit us in person to talk about our options and someone was sent out to talk to us about renting our property back after we had sold it. It couldn't have been more straightforward, there was no pressure. We now have money each month and life is more relaxed. I would recommend you, anytime, Thank you!"
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Christine, Stoke on Trent

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public & legal notices

DAVID WILLIAM GEORGE MARTIN (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 127 Booth Road Wednesbury West Midlands WS10 0EW, who died on 11/06/2010, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 27/05/2011, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
THE CO-OPERATIVE TRUST CORPORATION LIMITED
(Co Reg No 06323818)
New Century House
Manchester M60 4ES
(Ref: JQ/726936P/Martin) *T314779*

LICENSING ACT 2003
I Thillaimpalam Mathankanna, Punjab Supermarket 405 Dudley Road, Winson Green, Birmingham, B18 4HD
Hereby give notice I have applied under S17 Licensing and in accordance with S12 Licensing Act 2003 for a premises Licence for the above mentioned premises namely
• For the sale of Alcohol for consumption off the premises.
• MON - SUN 06:00 - 04:00
Any person wishing to make a representation regarding the application must do so in writing to Birmingham City Council, Licensing Section, Crystal Court, Aston Cross Business Village, 50 Rocky Lane, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5RQ
Email: licensing@birmingham.gov.uk
Not later than 04th April 2011
A copy of the application may be inspected during normal business hours.
It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.
Cavan Martin & Associates Ltd
Authorised Agents
DATED 3rd March 2011

LICENSING ACT 2003
Application has been made by Piotr Pawel Tyszewski, to the Licensing Authority of Sandwell MBC for a Premises Licence in respect of Premises known as: Szubryt Continental Store, 8 Waterloo Road, Smethwick B66 4JW
The application includes the following terms:
1. To enable the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises between Monday-Sunday 09.00-21.00
Full details of the application may be viewed at the Council Offices, Sandwell MBC, Licensing Department, PO Box 42, Lombard Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 8RU
(www.sandwell.gov.uk)
Interested parties or responsible authorities can make written representations to the Licensing Authority within 28 days from the date of this notice.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application and the on summary conviction for the offence is 5000.
Licensed Trade Legal Services Ltd, Authorised Agents for the Applicant
01902 482527
Dated: 10th March 2011

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (BERTRAM ROAD, ST PAUL'S ROAD AND FENTON STREET, SMETHWICK) (TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) 2011

The Borough Council of Sandwell in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers and in consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984 proposes to make an Order, the effect of which will be to:

1. To extend no waiting at any time on the southern side of St Paul's Road from its junction with Bertram Road for a distance of 35 metres in an easterly direction.
2. To extend no loading or unloading between the hours of 7.00 am - 9.30 am and 4.30 pm to 7.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays *(inclusive)* on the southern side of St Paul's Road from its junction with Bertram Road for a distance of 35 metres in an easterly direction.
3. To introduce no loading between the hours of 7.00 am - 9.30 am and 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays on the east side of Fenton Street, Smethwick from its junction with St Paul's Road for a distance of 46 metres in a northerly direction
4. To extend no waiting at anytime and no loading or unloading between the hours of 7.00 am - 9.30 am and 4.30 pm - 7.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays on the west side of Fenton Street, Smethwick to a point 29.5 metres from its junction with St Paul's Road in a northerly direction.
5. To reduce the extent of no waiting at any time and reduce the extent of no loading between the hours of 7.00am - 9.30am and 4.30pm - 7.00pm on Mondays to Fridays in the north side of St Paul's Road, Smethwick from the existing distance of 29 metres in a westerly direction from its junction with Fenton Street to a distance of 18.5 metres in a westerly direction from its junction with Fenton Street.

A copy of the draft Order, including a map showing the roads affected and a Statement of Reasons for making the Order, may be examined at the offices of the Director of Legal and Governance Services, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 4DE during normal working hours.

Any person wishing to object or make representations to the proposed Order must do so in writing to Mr David Crisp, Major Works Manager, Environment House, Lombard Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 8RU, or by email highways@sandwell.gov.uk specifying the ground of their objection by no later than 7th of April 2011.

Dated this 17th day of March 2011
N Sharma
Director of Legal And Governance Services

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (STATION ROAD, CRADLEY HEATH) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2011

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Borough Council of Sandwell intends, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in Station Road, Cradley Heath from the western boundary of No. 199 Station Road to its junction with Gorsty Hill Road.
2. The purpose and reason for the Order is to facilitate a new water connection at 193 Station Road.
3. The Order will take effect on 28th March 2011, and it is anticipated that the works may commence on that day. The works are expected to be completed on 1st April 2011. The Order may continue in force for a period not exceeding 18 months, or until the works in connection with the Order have been completed, whichever is the sooner.
4. Any queries about the works to take place should be directed to Paul Chapman of South Staffs Water on telephone number 01922 638282. Any queries about the effect of the order on traffic using the highway should be directed to Keith Sansom, Traffic and Road Safety Manager, Environment House, Lombard Street, West Bromwich, B70 8RU (Telephone 0121 569 4149).

DATED this 17th day of March 2011

N SHARMA
Director of Legal and Governance Services
Sandwell Council House
Oldbury
West Midlands

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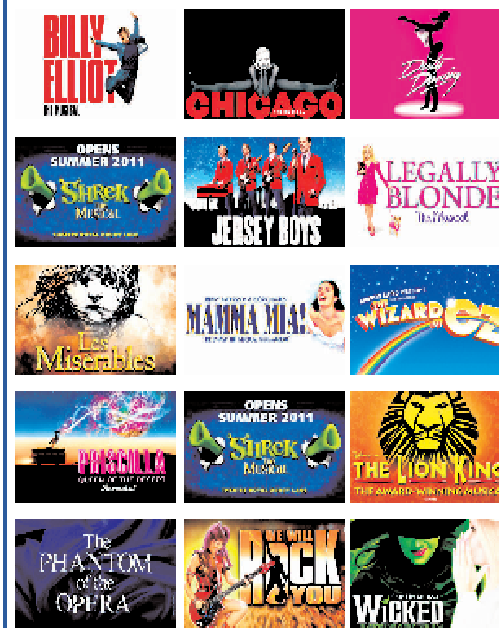

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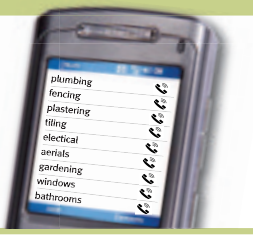

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Decorator centre helps football club brush up its image

A DONATION from the Dulux Decorator Centres' Erdington store to the FC Premier Football Club was a match made in heaven, as its tired facilities have now been updated and brought back to life.

Established in 1998, FC Premier has 16 teams training at its grounds on Ray Hall Lane, Great Barr, every week and offers budding footballers between the ages of seven and 18 the chance to showcase their talent with regular league fixtures and tournaments throughout the year.

The donation was made as part of the company's Colouring the Community scheme after club chairman, Steve Wall, contacted Dulux Decorator Centres.

The scheme aims to help local community groups and charities restore their premises, community centres and surrounding areas.

Steve said: "The club hasn't had a refurb in over five years so it's been a long time coming, and the paint has made a tremendous difference.

"First impressions are everything and we want visiting teams to know that we are a professional outfit and we want our facilities to reflect well on the club.

"Even though we're a Charter Standard Club, which means we are verified by the FA, we're a non-for-profit organisation and rely on donations and parent subscriptions, so the donation from Dulux Decorator Centres really means a lot to the club and we're very grateful."

James Teasdale, store manager at the Dulux Decorator Centres' Erdington store, said: "FC Premier desperately needed its changing rooms painting as well as the metal rails and fencing around the pitch. We advised them on the best metal and emulsion paint and recommended a fence guard that protects wood for up to ten years.

"The football club means a lot to so many youngsters from Erdington and the surrounding areas and we're delighted we've been able to contribute to such a successful sporting project."

Charities wishing to apply for a Colouring the Community award can find their nearest store, and apply online at the www.duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk website.

SPEEDWAY

Brummies pay the Pijper to tune up for Elite action

BIRMINGHAM have added Dutch rider Theo Pijper to their new Elite League squad.

Pijper has been named as the club's number eight, the stand-by rider to cover for injuries and other unavailability.

He has spent the majority of his British career with Edinburgh but will spend this season with Glasgow in the middle tier of British racing, where he will ride on a full-time basis whilst making occasional appearances for Birmingham.

Brummies boss Graham Drury reckons Pijper could turn out to be one of the most powerful stand-by riders in the top flight. He said: "Theo had a fine season last year on the Longtrack and Grasstrack scene and I feel sure he is in for a good year in British speedway.

"He's got good equipment and is determined to take this chance, whatever meetings he gets for Birmingham he will be determined to do well.

"He has a lot of experience under his belt too so I'm sure he won't let the occasion get to him when he rides in the Elite League."

Brummies are in action tonight (Thursday) at Perry Barr against Wolves.

DUDLEY HEATHENS will face former World Pairs champion Ronnie Correy in their opening meeting.

Correy, one of the most popular riders ever to grace British racing, will come out of retirement at the age of 44 to race for the USA Tourists at Wolverhampton's Monmore Green on April 12. The Californian star is a Wolverhampton legend and his inclusion in the USA team is sure to revive memories of the great Wolves-Cradley rivalry.

USA Tour chief Steve Evans, himself a Wolves fan who is desperate to turn over the Heathens, said: "I asked Ronnie almost tongue in cheek if he was interested in having a skid. I emailed him the dates and he came back and said he would ride in our meeting at Rye House and he would love to face the Heathens at Monmore Green.

"He will add some powerful strength to the team and I guess one last crack at beating the Heathens is something Ronnie just couldn't resist!"

Heathens chairman Nigel Pearson said: "I was shocked when I heard this news but it's going to be great to see Ronnie in action.

"As a Cradley fan you would always worry when Correy and Sam Ermolenko combined against you, he was a terrific rider and I know he has kept in shape since he retired.

"And I think it's fair to say Ronnie was quite popular amongst Cradley fans, which is so unusual for a Wolves rider!"

El Dragon Lento (left) and Joey Starr get ready to rumble

Kings of the ring coming to venues

STARS of the Alternative Wrestling World will make their debut at Haden Hill Leisure Centre on Saturday, March 26.

The venue has seen its fair share of action over the years, including visits by UK wrestling stars Big Daddy and The British Bulldog Davey Boy Smith.

But a new era starts when AWW crash land this at the Black Country venue this month.

The current AWW British Tag Team Champions, Carnatio, will defend their titles against the number one contenders.

Also scheduled to appear are top UK wrestlers MK Mikinan, 'Tomcat' Kevin O'Neil, Dan Ryder, 'Assassin' Dave Williams and the current AWW British Champion, Maddog Maxx.

Rumble

Plus. there will be a special 'Over The Top Rope' Rumble.

Tickets are available from Haden Hill Leisure Centre for £7 each if bought in advance, or £8 on the evening of the show.

The leisure centre is on Barrs Road, Cradley Heath. Doors open at 6pm and the show starts at 6.30pm.

For more information visit www.slt-leisure.co.uk or call 0845 659 4815 and select option 0.

The stars of the AWW will then visit at The Collingwood Centre in Pheasey on Saturday, April 9, at 6.30pm. Former Gladiator Jemma 'Inferno' Palmer will be in action as part of that £8 show. Call 08444 77 1000 .

BOWLS

THE CCF Open crown green bowling competition, held at West Bromwich Football Supporters Club has reached the half way stage and has already provided plenty of surprises.

With prize money totalling £3820, including a first prize of £1,000, the competition continues to attract many of the top northern bowlers as well as a local contingent.

The high standing of this competition nationally has again been recognised by the British Crown Green Bowling Association who have accepted it as a qualifying event for their prestigious Champion of Champions tournament at Blackpool.

The early stages this year have seen local competitors struggle to make an impression, although first to qualify for the final stages on April 10 was Moseley's Gavin Dunkley who after a tough opening 21-18 win looked in good form with two 21-10 wins. He was joined on the first day by Coventry duo Paul Lamb and Rich Burdett but the big surprise was 15-year-old Conor Chamberlain from Derby who belied his young age with some excellent bowling and looks a fine prospect.

The early season form player Simon Coupe from Preston made qualifying look easy with wins of 11, 8 and 10 and was joined by his club mate and experienced competition player Stuart Mort.

Another player showing good early season form is Derby's Darren Smith who disposed of former two times winner Richard Brittan along the way when qualifying from a very tough group.

Also through is Stoke's Kerry Morris who will be looking to improve on his relatively poor record in this competition, despite this he is still sure to start amongst the favourites on finals day.

Shropshire is already well represented with 5 of the 16 qualifiers so far. Headed by the current Cradley Libs champion Callum Wraight, the list includes former Champion of Champions winner Andrew Moss and the impressive looking Peter Farmer, now bowling at Newport.

Shock

The shock exits have been coming thick and fast, none more so than the holder Chris Mordue who never produced his form of 2010 and could only muster seven against Cannock's Allan Parsons. In fact none of last year's semi-finalists will be appearing in this year's final 32 and no previous winners have yet made it through, with six having already been eliminated

Local hopes at the moment rest with Steve Darling from the George at Warley who defeated current Warwick and Worcester county colleague Pete Dunkley 21-19 in a tight qualifying game. So far with only two qualifiers from Warwick and Worcester and one from Staffordshire hopes are that more will emerge in the next two weeks with most local players yet to make an appearance.

Also yet to make an appearance are a host of Northern stars including the games top two players Graeme Wilson and Gary Ellis, so spectators are welcome tover the next two weekends for what is likely to prove excellent entertainment.

Qualifiers to date: Gavin Dunkley (Moseley CC), Paul Lamb and Steve Pratt (Copsewood), Conor Chamberlain and Darren Smith (Stretton Anglesey), Rich Burdett (Highway), Simon Coupe and Stuart Mort (Tonge), Clay Flattley and Callum Wraight (Castlefields), Kerry Morris (Birches Head Hotel), Steve Darling (George), Kevin Jones and Andrew Moss (Chester Road), Allan Parsons (Chadsmoor), Peter Farmer (Newport).

Nick Clarke, right, with friend Robert Murphy at the Nou Camp, Barcelona

Nick, third right, and his mates paying tribute to Barca star Lionel Messi

From Glassa to Barca

From a non-league match on a cold afternoon to the glamour of a European tie – it is just another typical week in the life of Black Country football fanatic Nick Clarke.

He was in the Spanish crowd cheering on Barcelona in their clash with Arsenal in the Champions League last week – but insists his heart lies with Stourbridge Town.

The 23-year-old has season tickets for Stourbridge and Barcelona and tries to make as many home games as he can for both teams.

Nick, of Hagley, was one of the 90,000 supporters at the Nou Camp on Tuesday who saw Barcelona defeat Arsenal.

Opportunity

The quality manager at Clarke Transport, Oldbury, went on a five-day holiday with five friends and his brother Ollie, 21.

They flew out the Friday before and were able to watched Barca beat Real Zaragoza 1-0.

A three-week gap in home fixtures at Stourbridge gave him the opportunity to spend some more time in the Catalan capital and he stayed for two matches.

He says: "It's a great experience going to the Nou Camp and seeing them play, it's totally different to Stourbridge.

"But Stourbridge need our support and I'll always be behind them."

The Barca season ticket costs £380 and the Stourbridge one £110.

Each trip to Spain costs around £75 for travel as his accommodation is free, staying with friends he has made.

Brothers Nick Clarke, left, and his brother Ollie, centre, who support Stourbridge FC and Barcelona, with Stourbridge captain Ben Billingham

His support for Barca came when he and his father Bill attended a game at the Nou Camp in 2003.

He adds: "Unfortunately Barcelona lost 2-1, our first defeat against Real Madrid in Camp Nou since October 1983.

"Even though they lost I could not believe the atmosphere or the level of expectation compared to English football – it was fantastic.

"Following that I became hooked on the city, the country and the lifestyle."

The visits to Barcelona became more regular in the 2006/07 season when he was aged 19.

Since then he has been to at least 10 games a season for the past four years, and last season he missed only four home league games, as well as travelling to several away games and Champions League ties.

He says: "Over the past five years, I have seen Barca in Glasgow, Seville, Manchester, Madrid, London, Munich and most notably in Rome, where we won our third European Cup." He is hoping the club will this year scoop their fourth European title in the final at Wembley Stadium.

Since getting hooked, he has joined a UK-based Barcelona supporters' club. While in Barcelona he joins up with fellow supporters in a pub and he says he enjoys socialising in the city almost as much as watching the football.

But at the weekend he was back with Stourbridge's travelling fans who saw the Glassboys lose 3-2 at Weymouth Saturday.

He missed the Glassboys' 2-0 victory over Oxford City the previous Saturday – which was attended by just 161 supporters, compared to the 70,000 that packed into the Nou Camp for the game against Real Zaragoza.

Tiring

When Arsenal beat Barcelona in the first leg of their Champions League tie last month, Nick saw that game and a Glassboys match within 24 hours.

He cheered on Stourbridge in the Worcestershire Senior Cup semi-final which ended in a 4-0 win over Redditch, before flying out to the Catalan capital.

He added: "It can get tiring sometimes but we always have a good time and we like to turn our trips into mini holidays.

"I used to watch Villa but I got fed up with the Premier League because it's all about money – that's why I watch Stourbridge. Barcelona is a different world but I love the atmosphere – and of course the weather is much better."

Nick's match days

Stourbridge

1pm – "I arrive in Stourbridge and place a few bets at the bookies before making my way to the Mitre Inn in Lower High Street, where we meet a few of the Stourbridge barmy army and have a couple of drinks prior to the game, mixing with both home and away fans."

2.30pm – "I head to the ground as it's a five to 10- minute walk from the Mitre Inn, and get a quick drink before the game and a chat with Steve Dimmock, the landlord of the ground's clubhouse, and any of the other Stourbridge fans who weren't previously in the Mitre."

3pm – "Watch the game, and stand behind the end Stourbridge are attacking, which tends to be the Shed End for the first half – a far cry from the Nou Camp."

3.45pm – "We get a pie and watch the half time scores and hope a few of our play-off rivals or teams down the number nine bus route to Birmingham – such as Lye or Halesowen – are dropping points."

4pm – "Get behind the goal at the Church End for the second half."

5pm – "Watch the full time scores and curse the bets we failed to put on, then have a drink in the club house with the players and managerial staff from both sets of teams. We will head back to The Mitre Inn, where we tend to stay until the end of the first evening match on TV, before heading home either for the night or for a quick change before heading out again."

Barcelona

Friday night – "One problem with supporting a Spanish team is that we do not know what day the game will be played until 10 days before – it could be a Saturday or Sunday any time between 7pm and 11pm.

"I tend to fly from Liverpool airport on the Friday night and have the night out with other members of my UK FC Barcelona Supporters Club."

Saturday morning – "On match day we tend to walk from an apartment we have hired – keeping well away from the tourist traps – and get some breakfast, before getting a metro to the Nou Camp and meeting local Barca fans and my Catalan Supporters Club, Toxicos FCB."

4pm – "We meet in the same bar every home game, which is named 'El Triplet' in honour of Barca's treble success in the 2008/09 season.

"We stay here until kick off. For the big games against teams like Real Madrid, there can be up to 250 in this small backstreet bar, of which usually 50 of us have a typical Spanish dinner like paella together with drinks, and sing predominately pro-Barca songs."

The match – "We sit in the upper tier behind the goal in the corner of the Nou Camp, where the 40-50 Toxicos FCB congregate. It isn't quite like Stourbridge home games, as we can't walk round the ground to sit behind the end we attack. Away attendances are usually poor, with even Real Madrid only bringing at most 400 fans."

Post-match – "After the game, we usually go back to 'El Triplet' and have a quick drink before heading in to town to speak with my friends.

"When I first met them, they would as 'When is your next match?' but nowadays, it has become more like 'See you at the next game'. Depending on what time we fly home the following day, we might head back to the city centre and carry on where we left off, before stumbling into bed, grab a few hours sleep and then get up early for a cab to the airport and flight home."

sport

INSIDE
From Glassa to Barca: Black Country football fan's devotion to the giants of Catalonia

It's Appy days for the Albion no2

ALBION have confirmed Michael Appleton as Roy Hodgson's assistant for the remainder of the season.

Baggies boss Hodgson has opted to keep Appleton and Keith Downing as his chief lieutenants and they will remain as assistant head coach and first-team coach respectively at until the summer at the least.

Hodgson said: "My first month here has probably gone as smoothly as it possibly could and I have a lot to thank Michael and Keith for in that respect. They have been a huge help to me in terms of support and their knowledge of the players I've inherited. I see no reason to change anything for the remainder of the season.

"It has been a hectic few weeks for me – as it is for any head coach when he joins a club midway through the season – and we will sit down and look at things again in the summer when there is more time to assess everything. But, right now, I'm very happy with how we are working as a coaching team.

"Michael and Keith's input will be invaluable during the final nine games of the season as we strive to keep the club in the Barclays Premier League."

Dean Kiely will also remain as goalkeeping coach after taking over the role officially last summer.

Experience

Appleton, aged 35, has spent almost a decade at The Hawthorns, first as a player and then as a coach with the youth, reserve and first teams and took caretaker charge for the 3-3 home draw with West Ham.

Oldbury-born former Wolves midfielder Downing, 45, joined the Baggies as youth team coach but has managerial experience with Cheltenham.

Sporting director Dan Ashworth said: "Michael and Keith did an excellent job in terms of steadying the ship and keeping minds focussed after we decided to make a change.

"That work has continued under Roy, who has been very pleased with them."

Michael Appleton (pictured right) will stay by new boss Roy Hodgson's side for the rest of the season

Baggies face injury blows before visit by The Gunners

MIDFIELDER Graham Dorrans could face an extended spell on the sidelines after Baggies boss Roy Hodgson revealed the Scottish international's injured ankle has not healed.

And Youssouf Mulumbu is also racing to be fit for the weekend meeting with Arsenal after suffering a recurrence of a hamstring injury.

Dorrans missed the victory at Birmingham after twisting his ankle in training and was always considered likely to miss Saturday's Hawthorns clash with Arsenal.

Hodgson is now reluctant to place a timescale on his possible return but concerns are clearly growing with the 23-year-old due for fresh scans this week.

"We still have problems with Dorrans," conceded Hodgson. "We are concerned about that injury because he still hasn't been able to put any weight on it.

"The medical staff are looking at that very carefully.

Fears

"We were hoping for a quick fix but Mark Gillett (head of medical) has raised fears that it might be a longer job.

"We should know more this week. We hope it won't come to that but it is a concern.

"It's far too early to say for sure how bad Dorrans is and it would be wrong to scare-monger.

"We were aiming for the Liverpool game at the earliest and we are still thinking that at the moment, but he won't take any part in the Arsenal game.

"Our medical people will keep an eye on him and if there is no improvement later this week we will scan it again."

Meanwhile, Mulumbu had been ruled out of training for the early part of this week with the injury he sustained while scoring his side's opening goal in the 3-1 win at Birmingham. He has previously missed the Black Country derby with a hamstring problem.

"With Mulumbu we also have a concern," admitted Hodgson. "He has suffered two muscle injuries, one after the other. We have concerns about him."

Wenger's men will be out for revenge

JAMES Morrison has warned Albion that Arsenal will be gunning for revenge for the side's return to Premier League action at The Hawthorns on Saturday.

Morrison reckons Gunners boss Arsene Wenger will use his team's shock September defeat to the Baggies to fire up his troops ahead of the return match this weekend.

But the Scotland international believes Albion will be ready to deal with the backlash from their historic 3-2 victory at the Emirates Stadium.

"I think it will definitely be on their minds," said Morrison. "Mr Wenger will let them know that and remind them that we went to their home and beat them. I think they'll be looking to get a win over us as well because they're in the title race and have a good opportunity of winning it.

"They'll always be up for it because they've got a title opportunity. But they're not going to get it easy when they come to our place."

Saturday's match will go ahead as scheduled after Arsenal's FA Cup quarter-final defeat at Manchester United removed the possibility of a replay.

More woe for Houllier as his chief scout prepares to go

GERARD Houllier's off-the-pitch problems continued this week after it emerged that chief scout Jeff Vetere is poised to leave Villa after only three months in the role.

The club have officially declined to comment on the matter but it is understood from sources in London that he is close to finalising the terms of his departure to take up a role as Charlton's director of football.

Vetere, who is fluent in Spanish, Italian and French, had a previous spell at The Valley as an overseas development co-ordinator and later worked for West Ham, Real Madrid and Newcastle.

The 45-year-old also has a close relationship with former Newcastle director Tony Jimenez who is now co-owner of Charlton following his takeover of the League One club at the beginning of the year.

Houllier had a major say in Vetere's appointment and said at the time of his unveiling that the scout "knows football inside out" and was tasked with setting up a global scouting network for Villa.

His impending departure is another blow for Houllier who is still picking the bones out of an unsavoury incident involving Richard Dunne, James Collins and a number of the club's staff. The pair are the subject of an ongoing internal club investigation into the matter which took place at an exclusive Leicestershire spa last week.

Dunne and Collins are set to meet club officials and, while the club are not likely to publically reveal the terms of their punishment, both are expected to be handed hefty fines. But it appears Dunne's behaviour has not damaged his international chances after he was called up for Ireland's Euro 2012 qualifier with Macedonia and friendly with Uruguay. The 31-year-old defender is out injured with a shoulder problem but has been named in Giovanni Trapattoni's squad with fellow Villa defender Ciaran Clark.

There have also been call-ups for Marc Albrighton, Nathan Delf-ouneso, Nathan Baker and Kyle Walker who were named in England's Under-21 squad for friendlies against Denmark and Iceland.

Spanish teenager Juan Serrano scored for Villa reserves as they slipped to a 2-1 defeat to Everton at Hinckley on Monday. Villa are five points behind leaders Arsenal in third place with a game in hand.

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Start of a new era for the Brummies

BIRMINGHAM Speedway are urging fans to arrive early for the launch of a new era at Perry Barr today (Thursday).

The Brummies have entered the Elite League, the top flight of British racing, for the first time since 1983 and start their season with a WM Trophy clash against neighbours Wolverhampton.

A bumper crowd is expected with the club's promotion from the Premier League capturing the imagination of fans throughout the city.

And club boss Graham Drury says predicting a result against Wolves is almost impossible.

He said: "We've got a new team of riders who have never ridden together before so it's a tricky one but I'd take any kind of win to get our season started.

"All the indications are we are going to get a big crowd so I would urge supporters to try and get here a little earlier than normal if that's possible."

Monmore

The action starts at 7.30pm and the teams will meet again at Monmore Green for the second leg next Monday, March 21.

More speedway news on page 59

SPORTS SHORTS

PERRY Barr-based rugby union side Birmingham Barbarians got back to winning ways with a hard fought 21-18 victory over Warley.

The Barbarians, currently placed near the top of their Midlands Merit Table, dominated the first half and notched three converted tries. Sean Rudd got the first after a neat inside pass from Lee Lamburn saw him canter under the posts. Veteran back rower Danny Higgs added to Warley woes with a typical barnstorming run from 30 yards and Rudd grabbed his brace by finishing off a flowing backs move just before the break. Lamburn converted all three to leave the score 21-3 at half-time.

The second half saw the visitors hit back with three unconverted tries but Babas held on to win.

FOUR institutions entered the inaugural Carnegie Champion Colleges Rugby League Tournament, providing a thrilling dose of Rugby League to all those involved at Coventry.

Coundon Court (Coventry), Sutton Coldfield (Birmingham) and New College Telford and Thomas Telford Sixth Form (both Shropshire) played in a round-robin format, each side played each other oneand it went to the last play of the game, which saw Coundon Court beat Sutton Coldfield by just a single try 16-12.

IN the Under 14s Bilston football league, Wednesfield Rangers beat Penn Colts 4-0. Wednesbury went into the game looking to avenge a result against bottom club Penn Colts. Wednesbury were rewarded for their hard work and took a 1-0 lead through Furnival, Then Tonks made it 2-0 on 25 minutes. In the second half Wednesbury continued to work hard and got a further two goals, both from Demarco Martin.

Three-way cycle speedway battle on Tividale track

THE new cycle Speedway season gets up and running this weekend (March 19 and 20)

Saturday afternoon will see Sandwell Caterline commerical Kitchens Lions, defending the Annual Drew Jackson Trophy at Wednesfield, in a three corned fight between the Lions, Stockport and Wednesfield.

Sandwell have won this trophy for the last two seasons, and will be going all out to make it three in a row.

On Sunday afternoon at their Tividale base the Lions take on Leicester (1pm) in a Midland League Division one match, and will be looking for a win to start the Midland league season with a bang.

Aces

This meeting will start with a Division two match against a Leicester second team, and after the Division one match will end with another Division two match, as Leicester have two second teams the Lions and the Monarchs, so a full afternoon of racing is in store. Admission is free and there will be refreshments available.

On the following Sunday, March 27 at 2pm, Sandwell take the mighty Wednesfield Aces again at Tividale in the their first Premier League match for four years as they return to top flight of cycle-speedway.

Yannick Mertens receiving the winner's trophy from Sandwell Mayor Councillor Pauline Hinton

Top tennis tournament at Tipton sports venue

TIPTON Sports Academy has just successfully hosted the 15,000 US dollar Aegon GB Pro-Series tennis tournament.

It is the 11th year running that the academy, in Wednesbury Oak Road, has held the tournament.

Sandwell's Mayor Councillor Pauline Hinton attended on finals' day on Sunday to present the prizes at the international tennis event.

Second seed Yannick Mertens won the men's final after beating Britain's Dan Evans 6-2, 7-6.

Tennis Development Officer for Sandwell Leisure Trust Lee Marks said: "Squad players from the tennis programme at Tipton Sports Academy delivered a great 'service' to International players on finals' day.

"For the past two months the young players have trained hard in preparation to be part of the ball crew.

"They did a great job which was noted by the professional players and the tournament officials. Thanks must go to all of the ball boys and girls and to Craig Unitt, our tennis coach, who trained them up.

"The ball crew – whose ages ranged from 10 to 14 years – were: Jake Lawley, Jake Mihailovic, Katie Hickinbottom, Mitchell Weaver, Nancy Brand, James Portman, Lisa Colling, Tom Hinks, Eddie Cooper and Kelly Warrington."

Sunday's crowd were also treated to a great display from Tipton's up-and-coming mini tennis stars, who took part in an on-court demonstration before the men's singles final started.

The mini players from the eight and under age category on the Sandwell tennis programme, included: Eloise Yates, Elise Dennis, George Walker, Francesca Ellis, Florence Proctor, Leo Nkusi, Isabelle Hickinbottom and Chiedza Muchauraya.

For more information about tennis at Tipton Sports Academy you can call 0845 659 4815 select option 5, email leisure@sandwell.gov.uk or visit the www.slt-leisure.co.uk website.

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Advertisement

"An Inspector Calls"

In March 2011, Christine Gilbert, Chief Inspector for Ofsted, responsible for monitoring schools, visited Shireland Collegiate Academy. The main purpose was to see the excellent progress being made by the Academy and the achievements of the students. From the visit she wanted to look at how the Academy's approach to teaching and learning could be replicated in other schools. Shireland Collegiate Academy was the only school to receive an outstanding rating in the latest round of inspections in Sandwell. Inspectors rated five schools as satisfactory, five schools as good and Shireland Collegiate Academy as outstanding. The Academy achieved this status because, as many inspectors found, "so many elements are excellent."

From the report the Academy is shown as **'outstanding'** in the following areas:

- Quality of learning
- Quality of teaching
- Students' progress
- Use of assessment
- Support and guidance
- Leadership
- Capacity to improve
- Use of technology
- Expectations of learning and behaviour
- Attitudes to learning
- Working with families and carers
- Working with community and partners
- Safeguarding students
- Promotion of equality of opportunity
- Nursery provision

Ofsted Outstanding 2010 2011

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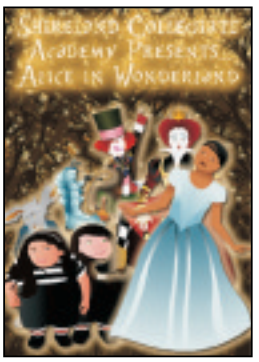

The Alice Story Production

Rehearsals are now well underway and going well for the forthcoming Arts Production of Alice in Wonderland.

This a contemporary production of the Alice story, students from all year groups are involved in the Drama, Dance and Musical aspects of the show. The Art Department are working with students on the production of props, costumes and marketing. This is going to be a huge and exciting event that we want you all to come and see.

The show will run from Wednesday 29th June through to Saturday 2nd July. The Saturday show will be combined with a fantastic circus style carnival event for all the family. We hope to see you there.

Member of The Alice Story cast
with Sir Mark Grundy and Mrs Christine Gilbert

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
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Collegiate Academy Trust Waterloo Road Smethwick West Midlands B66 4ND
t: 0121 558 8086 f: 0121 558 8377 www.collegiateacademy.org.uk
Executive Principal: Sir Mark Grundy
George Salter Collegiate Academy Principal: Mr Mick Green
Ormiston Trust
Collegiate

Communications

Family Consultation Page

In January 2011 OfSTED rated communications with families at Shireland Collegiate Academy as **outstanding**. They said that communications "were **regular**, **clear** and **current**".

We want to make it even better!

With over 200 families each month logging onto our Family Portal, we want to make sure that our families have a voice and we provide as many different ways as possible that families can ask us questions that they need answers to. A number of families have asked for a special area on the Family Portal to discuss Academy matters amongst each other, share experiences, and ask questions. So, our new Family Consultation Page on The Learning Gateway is being launched in March 2011.

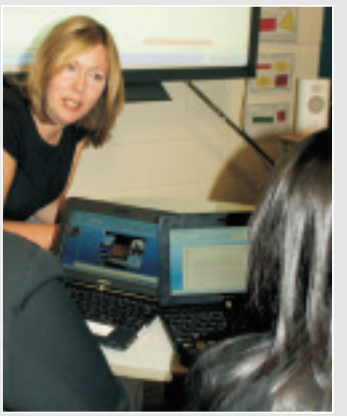
Screen shots of the Family Portal

Listening to our families

The Family Consultation Page can be used to discuss general topics in the school and local community, take part in school related surveys or you can ask us *non-emergency* questions about the academy and what goes on.

Look out for the new Family Consultation Page this month on The Learning Gateway.

The Family Forum is coming! - a site that will enable you to talk to other Parents and Carers and leave general queries about the Academy for us to answer.



Other systems we use for communicating to families include text alert systems, school intranet, email and even video messages.

Family Consultation Evenings

At Shireland Collegiate Academy all families get regular electronic reports on their children's progress - going far beyond the traditional annual school report.

On the Shireland Family Portal there is a 'real-time' reporting system. Real-time reporting means families are able to access frequently updated information on children's achievement, progress, attendance and behaviour wherever, whenever they want using our secure, online system.

Internet Café

Our facilities to benefit the wider community

It has 4 computers with internet connection. You don't have to register for one of our courses to use our facilities.

Why not discover the Internet and the World Wide Web for yourself and drop-into our Internet Café.

Free taster sessions can be organised for individuals, community groups or groups of friends.

Here you will be able to write up your CV, scan some photographs, print, or just surf the Internet.

Have a cup of coffee; read the local press, look for a job, you can do all that and much more here at the Shireland Internet Café.

Our opening times are as follows:
Monday: 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Wednesday: 10.00am 1.00pm
Friday: 12.00pm - 2.00pm

Our Academy Internet Café is open three days a week.
Feel free to drop-in
Free Internet access!
Scanning and printing facilities
All the help you need to get you started!

Can't get to the Family Portal on the Learning Gateway? **Contact Roy Gardiner on m: 0771 761 8598 or through the Academy reception t: 0121 558 8086**

Shireland Post 16 Centre

'Dragons' Den

In February 10 students from Shireland Collegiate Academy presented their A-Level work to Shireland's very own 'Dragons'. In the Den were Jerry Jarvis, an internationally recognised businessman and engineer, and Henry Warren, a social entrepreneur who is currently at the cutting edge of web 2.0 tools for teaching and learning. Representing the academy were; Kirsty Tonks, the Director of e-Learning at the Academy and Ian Armstrong, ex student of Shireland Post 16 Centre, now working on web development, graphic design and providing training for staff.

The students brief was to promote a Flash based product they would produce as part of their A-level studies. This product would then be used as part of the Year 7 Curriculum next year. They needed to convince the panel of entrepreneurs and ICT specialists that their idea would be a success and the product would enhance delivery of the Year 7 curriculum.

All of the dragons were impressed by our students' professionalism, dedication and imagination. The students made good use of ICT and the academy facilities to prepare high quality presentations and they charmed the dragons with their personalities; yet again proving that our students can stand up in front of any audience and shine.

In the afternoon the students and staff were able to quiz Henry and Jerry on their amazing careers and experience. Their experiences have included travelling all over the world, leading some of the world's most successful organisations and even setting fire to a nuclear submarine!

The students are now working on their projects and the 'Dragons' have promised to return and see the finished products.

Henry Warren and Jerry Jarvis

The four 'dragons' Henry Warren, Jerry Jarvis, Kirsty Tonks and Ian Armstrong

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Community Activities

Shireland Tree of Life

Shireland Tree of Life is an ongoing community project in which students, their families and members of the local community produce various different types of artworks for the Academy setting. Most recently we have made a fantastic tiled tree using mosaic techniques. This has been completed for display within the Academy and everyone involved has produced their own section of the artwork.

The Tree of Life is a symbol used by many cultures and communities. It can represent science, religion, health and well being, growth and development. Our Tree of Life project has enabled students to learn new skills, share ideas with others from outside of the Academy environment and has provided a great opportunity to work as a team towards an end goal.

As part of the tree project we have previously run ceramics sessions in which participants have had fun throwing pots on the wheel and discovered the art of embossing and glazing slabbed leaves. These will also be displayed within the Academy.

We would like to thank all those who have attended the workshops to date and contributed to making our artworks. Further workshops will be coming up in the next few months. These will focus on props and accessories for our production of Alice in Wonderland which takes place in the Summer Term.

Visit to the Houses of Parliament

Students meet John Spellar MP

In February 2011 members of our school cluster council, SIP, (Smethwick Inspired Partnership) visited Westminster to find out about how Parliament works and what happens in both the houses.

Our SIP council is made up from two children from each of our schools within the Smethwick Cape Hill cluster; Cape Primary, Crocketts Community Primary, St Matthew's Primary, St Philip's Primary, Shireland Hall Primary, Shireland Collegiate Academy and Victoria Park Primary.

The visit began with an educational tour of Parliament during which our students were given the opportunity to interact with their guide as they experienced the Palace of Westminster and found out about the work of MPs and Peers. During the tour our students were able sit in the public gallery and listen to a debate taking place.

Afterwards, our group took part in an interactive workshop. The workshop encouraged our students to explore their new learning and express their views and thoughts through contribution to discussions and the use of high-tech voting pods!

During the afternoon the students were able to conduct a 'question and answer' session with our local MP, John Spellar, Member of Parliament for Warley.
The day informed our students about the role, work and history of Parliament through this educational visit and helped them understand the relevance of Parliament and democracy today.

Cluster Choir

The choir, made up from children from our Smethwick Cape Hill cluster schools, meets each week at the refurbished Windmill Super Youth Club Centre, Smethwick. Over 40 children attend regularly and the children are coached by well known jazz singer, Carol Brewster, who is recognised as one of the UK's most outstanding vocalists in the Gospel and Jazz field.

Adult and Family Courses at the Academy

For more information contact Roy Gardiner m 0771 761 8598

The council's play service 'Out to Play' is delivering free play sessions
every Tuesday at the Windmill Centre, Messenger Lane Smethwick. 3.30pm 6.00pm

Come and join us for arts and crafts, sports, junk modeling, den building and much more.

The sessions are open access and children are free to come and go as they please.

To find out what is on offer in Sandwell for children and young people, go to the play space website: www.playspace.tv/sandwell or visit http://www.justyouth.org.uk/

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Skills for Life

FREE
Adult numeracy and literacy courses offered online.

Skills for Life is a numeracy and literacy provision aimed at adults over the age of 19.
It is an accredited course through City and Guilds.

The courses are held at Shireland Collegiate Academy
Waterloo Road, Smethwick B66 4ND

Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Wednesday 10.00am - 12.00pm
Friday 12.00pm - 2.00pm

ESOL Classes at Shireland Collegiate Academy

Thursday 12.45pm - 2.45pm
Friday 10.00am - 12.00pm

Charge for course may apply